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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

ELEVEN VOLUMES.

—*(3.)*—

COLONIES; EMIGRATION.

Session

3 *February* —— 21 *March* 1857.

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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1857.

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THIRD VOLUME.

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Made for the Year 1855 *to the Secretary of State having the Department of the Colonies; in continuation of the Reports annually made by the Governors of the British Colonies, with a view to exhibit generally*

THE PAST AND PRESENT STATE

OF

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

C. P.

TRANSMITTED WITH THE BLUE BOOKS
For the Year 1855.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
21*st March* 1857.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1857.

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EXHIBITING

THE PAST AND PRESENT STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

PART I.

NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

CANADA.

No. 1.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor General Sir E. Head to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere.

(No. 8.)

Government House, Toronto, C.W., January 17, 1857.

(Received February 7, 1857.)

Sir,

In writing a Despatch to accompany the Blue Book for 1855, I feel great pleasure in assuring Her Majesty's Government of the continued prosperity and loyalty of Canada.

2. The harvests of 1855 and 1856 have been on the whole good in both years; however, especially in the latter, the crops of Lower Canada have suffered partially from wet and damp. In Upper Canada the wheat crop was for the most part secured in good condition.

3. The quantity of wheat produced and sold in 1855 and the spring of 1856 in Upper Canada has been very large, and the profits to the farmers very considerable. The sums thus received have produced fruit in improving the building, and the cultivation of the soil, as well as in augmenting the expenditure of the population on their own comforts; an expenditure tending to keep up the revenue of the province. Some notion of the increase of receipts on account of wheat may be formed from the annexed Table, extracted from the Trade and Navigation Returns of Canada.

TOTAL EXPORTS.

		1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.
Wheat	Bushels	1,883,598½	2,666,903	1,442,677	3,193,748
	Value	£355,456 8 1	£772,610 8 1	£524,534 6 3	£1,482,216 12 1
Flour	Barrels	702,624	786,058	651,400	643,936
	Value	£689,377 10 2	£1,062,208 14 11	£1,999,174 18 5	£1,450,480 2 7

4. The following Table may be taken as supplementary to the Blue Book of 1855, and exhibits the relative conditions of the revenue from customs duties and public works up to the end of November in 1855 and 1856.

CANADA.

D.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the net Amount of Receipts from Customs and Revenue from Public Works for 1855 and 1856.

MONTHS.	CUSTOMS.						REVENUE FROM PUBLIC WORKS.					
	1855.			1856.			1855.			1856.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
January	45,494	3	10	31,617	15	7	5,260	17	2	3,901	10	8
February	22,031	16	11	29,760	16	9	725	4	3	1,677	0	5
March	46,745	5	0	46,406	3	8	688	1	5	125	19	7
April	64,298	8	11	134,144	4	4	2,519	15	4	174	3	8
May	130,473	1	4	138,567	14	9	6,627	11	7	7,299	17	4
June	77,655	10	7	108,166	12	5	13,852	1	11	13,907	9	7
July	61,310	14	8	150,404	8	3	11,387	15	6	13,629	16	5
August	57,456	17	2	73,023	15	5	11,318	8	11	12,604	3	5
September	112,899	6	4	145,638	4	0	10,727	11	8	16,293	0	8
October	117,873	7	9	101,157	5	3	15,731	7	1	17,197	1	3
November	51,175	11	9	59,425	4	4	15,943	4	3	12,781	14	4
December	—			—			—			—		
TOTAL	787,414	4	3	1,018,312	4	9	94,781	19	1	99,591	17	4

RECAPITULATION.

	£	s.	d.
Customs 1855	787,414	4	3
„ 1856	1,018,312	4	9
Increase, 1856	230,898	0	6
Revenue from Public Works, 1855	94,781	19	1
„ „ 1856	99,591	17	4
Increase, 1856	4,809	18	3

Receiver General's Office, Toronto,
December 1, 1856.

5. The amount required for meeting the additional charge of interest thrown on the province by the debentures of the Grand Trunk Railway was in fact secured by the increased receipts previous to 5th July, the day on which the new duties took effect.

6. The working of the reciprocity treaty will be best shown by the following extract from the report of the Secretary of the United States Treasury just laid before Congress:

"The effect of reciprocal free trade is shown by Statement No. 29. of our "commerce with the British North American Provinces before and since the "reciprocity treaty, which went into effect in 1854. In 1853, the exports of "American produce to those provinces amounted to $7,404,087, and our "imports from them to $7,550,718; whilst in 1856 the exports of American "produce to said provinces amounted to $22,714,697, and our imports from "them to $21,310,421."

Mr. Myron Clark, Governor of the State of New York, whom I had the pleasure of meeting at Kingston a few weeks since, assured me that the operation of the treaty was highly beneficial to them. I replied that, like all trade which was based on sound principles, it was, I conceived, beneficial to both parties. Such is my belief as regards its effects in Canada.

7. The settlement of the country is advancing rapidly. The land offered by the Government to settlers on the new road between Lake Ontario and the tributaries of the Ottawa has been readily taken on condition of actual settlement. The sale of a portion of the Indian lands at Saugeen has taken place at rates which prove the amount of capital ready to be expended in purchases of this kind. One third of the purchase money had to be paid down,

and the land is by no means uniformly good. The result of the whole may be stated as follows:

Number of Acres of Farm Land in the Tract 144,000.

Acres sold	109,000
Acres unsold	35,000
	144,000

	Farm Lots.	Park Lots.	Town Lots.	Total.
Total value at upset price	55,823*l.*	4,305*l.*	1,950*l.*	62,079*l.*
Total sale price	100,341*l.*	10,609*l.*	8,382*l.*	119,332*l.*
Average upset price per acre	10*s.* 3*d.*	—	—	—
Average price per acre for which they sold	18*s.* 6*d.*	—	—	—
Average advance upon the upset prices	80 per cent.	150 per cent.	325 per cent.	—

Total amount sold	£ 119,332
Upset value of unsold land	16,398
	135,730

8. In Lord Durham's report, printed in 1839, a strong contrast is drawn between the value of land on the British and the American sides of the frontier. Since the Saugeen sale I have endeavoured to obtain trustworthy information as to the present value of land in Michigan, the region opposite to that peninsula. I cannot say that the answers which I have received lead me to suppose that any preference such as was described by Lord Durham for the United States' side of the lake now exists, in this district at least.

9. In the course of this autumn I have visited the Upper Ottawa, proceeding as far as the highest timber slides on that river at the point called "les Deux Joachims," above 160 miles above Ottawa city. I had with me the two first commissioners of the board of works. The country throughout is settling fast. At Pembroke on the Upper Canada side, at the head of the Allumette Island, I was told that scarcely a lot remained in the township not taken up. A good deal of anxiety has been expressed, especially at Montreal, with regard to the opening of traffic by canal or railway up the valley of the Ottawa to Lake Huron. This scheme which is yet in a crude state, excites, I am told, considerable interest at Boston, where it seems to be believed that such a route would secure to that city facilities for traffic with the western states now enjoyed mainly by New York.

10. We have at this moment surveying parties on the Ottawa for the purpose of ascertaining the practicable nature of any such plan. The objects of making this examination of the country in question will be best shown by the following extracts from the instructions to the surveyor, Mr. W. Shanley:

"In the last general report of this department upon the public works of the "province, which was laid before the legislature during the last session, the "project then generally mooted, of rendering the River Ottawa navigable "throughout, was referred to, and a survey of that river and of the adjoining "country was recommended. To cover the cost of such survey, a sum was "placed on the estimates, and was appropriated for by Parliament.

11. "The immediate commencement of this survey is now decided on, and "I am directed to acquaint you that his Excellency the Governor-General, "having full reliance on your zeal, energy, and professional acquirements, has "been pleased to sanction an arrangement by which will be intrusted to you "the principal charge and direction of it.

12. "A copy of the Order in Council on the subject is enclosed herewith.

13. "In the report above referred to the matter is thus introduced:

"'The importance of opening a thorough line of communication from "Montreal by the line of the Ottawa, Lake Temiscouaming, and French "River, to Lake Huron, has of late attracted a large share of public attention. "The board of trade of the city of Montreal, the corporation of the city of "Ottawa, the municipalities of several of the counties which would be

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" traversed by this route, have taken the matter up, and several petitions " connected with it have been presented to the Executive.

14. " 'The expediency of improving the navigation of the Ottawa, by " making it continuous, so as to avoid the numerous transhipments that " necessarily take place at present, has been for some years admitted, and an " appropriation of 50,000*l.* was made towards the commencement of the works, " which are of such a nature and so situated that on the completion of each " separately immediate benefit will be derived therefrom. On the completion " of the Chats Canal, the delay and expense of transhipment and portage " between Lake Chaudiere and Chats Lake will be got rid of, and a continuous " navigation opened from Aylmer to the Chats. In like manner, when the " improvements at the city of Ottawa (of which a survey and estimate have " been made) are effected, an uninterrupted navigation will be open down to " Montreal. Had the canals at Carillon and Grenville (known as Ordnance " Canal) been the property and under the control of the province, it is " probable that the improvements would have been commenced with them, " and doubtless on their becoming provincial property their enlargement and " improvement will be provided for.

15. " 'All such improvements to the navigation have been undertaken with " the view of their being carried out to such extent as the Ottawa is capable of, " at a reasonable outlay, and as the conveying of supplies for the lumber trade " and the opening and settlement of the country would appear to demand. The " dimensions of the locks were proposed to be the same as those of the " St. Lawrence navigation, but with a less draught of water; namely, *six feet* " *six inches* on the sills, which it was considered would be found ample for the " water communication contemplated, and could not well be increased, owing to " the depth of the river itself in places, except at a greatly increased expense.

16. " 'This communication, however, as the subject is now taken up, is con- " templated for much more extended objects, and principally for the opening " of a new route, which it is represented would become that for the conveyance " of a large proportion of the produce of the far west to the seaboard, and " would also be the channel for the transport of the manufactured lumber to " the great markets of Chicago, &c.

17. " 'No actual surveys or reliable examinations have yet been made with a " view to the construction of such a communication, nor has any information of " practical importance been obtained with reference to it; but the subject is of " such importance as to induce the undersigned to recommend that a general " survey and exploration of the line should be authorized and provided for, " and at no time could such be carried on more effectively and economically by " this department than at the present. The period of such survey should embrace " the winter as well as the summer, as it would be important to observe the " state and character of the rivers and waters at every season. This survey " should not be made with a view to the creation of a water communication " alone, but should be so conducted as to afford full and ample opportunity of " reporting upon the greater facilities, or the reverse, which may be found to " exist for the adoption of a railway communication through that territory, " either in whole or in part, instead of the suggested navigation.'

18. " The above extract, taken in communication with the Order in Council " and with the report from this department upon which that order is based (of " which a copy is transmitted herewith), embraces so fully the principal points " to be attended to in the conducting of the survey that but little more is " required to be added for your guidance.

19. " You will perceive that the first object of the survey is to ascertain the " real capabilities of the river, the obstacles to navigation met with on it, and how " they can best be overcome, which, wherever it is practicable, it is considered " much the most desirable in every point of view to effect by lateral cuts rather " than by dams, in a river such as the Ottawa. The all-important point as to " the sources and capacity of the necessary supplies for the summit level will, of " course, command your attention, as will also the selection of a suitable " terminating harbour on Lake Huron. The character of the tributaries to the " Ottawa,—as to what extent they are navigable,—it will be well it should be " examined into and embraced in your report.

20. "The great length and magnitude of such a water communication as "the one under consideration, and the necessarily very large outlay which "must be involved, renders it desirable that, during the course of your "operations, you should keep in view the importance of determining upon the "requisite works, so that, as each might be completed, direct and immediate "benefit would be had therefrom, pending the execution of others, and that "thus the works might progress as the finances of the province would permit, "and the wants of that section of the country might appear to require. "Looking to this object, it may be well that at such parts of the river as present "very serious obstacles, the removal of which would require a great expen- "diture, you should have the facilities for the making of a railway portage "ascertained, by which means, as alluded to in the Order in Council, the "country would be opened up, and great facilities for the transmission of the "lumbering supplies, agricultural produce, &c., &c., be obtained by comparatively "moderate outlay. It will of course at once occur to you that these obser- "vations refer only to the contemplated improvements, so far as the settlement "of the country; but looking upon these as to be embarked in to form a "channel for the produce of the western countries to the seaboard, which "many advocate, it is clear that, whether such communication be finally by a "rail or by water, it should be in either case continuous and without breaks.

21. "The scale of a water communication to suit such a trade should "necessarily be much greater than what would be required for the local wants "of settlements, &c.; and how far the line indicated is capable of being made "so is one of those most important points to be decided by your survey.

22. "In connection with the information which you will be enabled to give as "to the capabilities of the river for improved navigation, or of *the adjacent "country for the construction of a railway*, it will be highly desirable that you "embrace also in your examination and report a topographical and geological "description of the country traversed, describing particularly the quality of "the soil, nature of the timber,—which latter should be referred to every quarter "of a mile,—opportunities for the establishment of water power, &c."

23. I ought to say that at a point on the river nearer to Ottawa city (Bytown), a very large sum has already been expended in the cutting of the "Chats" canal. The nature of the rock has proved to be such as will cause the outlay on this work to be ultimately much heavier than was at first supposed, and operations are temporarily suspended.

24. So much is clear. The settlement of Michigan, Illinois, and Wisconsin, accessible through the waters of Lake Huron and Lake Michigan, the growth of Chicago, and the mineral wealth of Lake Superior, all point to a rapid extension of the trade of Canada and New England westward. The progress of this western trade may be illustrated by the following extract from a recent paper, for the accuracy of which, however, I cannot myself vouch, as it is extracted from a Chicago paper.

"Canada trade with Chicago.

"Under the present growing relations between this country and Canada, "the character and amount of our trade in that direction becomes a question "of considerable interest. We are at present unable to give the total figures "representing our Canadian trade, as it is impossible correctly to get at a "large amount which is carried on indirectly and through other intervening "American ports. The tables below given will exhibit the amount of imports "and exports by British vessels. It is hardly necessary to remark, that the "real aggregate, especially of exports, is very much increased by shipments "from this port in American vessels, but which eventually find a Canadian "destination. The imports are perhaps more nearly represented. We find it "impossible to give a classified exhibit of the imports and exports for the "present season, but we have appended the total value of both up to "November 6th."

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ABSTRACT of Imports and Exports into and from the Port of Chicago, by British Vessels, during the Navigation Seasons of 1855 and 1856.

IMPORTS.

	1854.		1855.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam vessels entered	2	344	14	2,528
Sail „ „	3	849	63	14,092
Total	5	1,193	77	16,619
Pig iron — Tons	1,153		818	
Limestone — „	10		—	
Bar iron — „	—		167	
Fish — Barrels	—		1,402	
Oil — „	—		70	
Salt — Bushels	—		75,757	
Firewood — Cords	—		5	
Lumber — Feet	—		7,209,494	
Oatmeal — Barrels	—		5	
Peas — „	—		100	
Total value — Stirling £	5,178 2 6		28,856 6 8	
Total value — Federal $	24,853		138,520	

Number of vessels entered in 1856 - 95

Total value of Imports - Sterling £40,592 8 4; Federal $194,843

EXPORTS.

	1854.		1855.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam vessels cleared	2	344	15	2,746
Sail „ „	4	1,138	16	11,264
Total	6	1,482	31	13,010
Wheat — Bushels	34,534		402,780	
Flour — Barrels	—		2,633	
Corn — Bushels	24,750		139,802	
Pork — Barrels	1,647		6,091	
Beef —	—		2,271	
Tallow —	51		420	
Hams — lbs.	—		27,053	
Lard —	65,754		31,460	
Hemp — Tons	25		33	
Total value — Sterling £	16,429 7 6		173,992 1 8	
Total value — Federal $	79,101		834,826	

Number of vessels cleared in 1856 - 97

Total value exported - Sterling £174,838 5 9; Federal $839,223

25. A glance at the map will show how much would be saved in distance by water communication across Lake Huron, either into Lake Ontario or down the Ottawa valley. As regards the future intercourse with these vast regions, such an opening would be far more important than that originally effected by the Erie canal; and there can be little doubt that Montreal would largely benefit by any such movement. As I have already said, I am not yet in a position to express an opinion on the question, whether the construction of such a canal would be practicable. Its military importance, in relation to the defence of Canada, would be, in its way, at least as great as its commercial value.

26. After speaking of the probable extension of our trade westward, I ought to advert to the increased facilities afforded to shipping, both as regards the entrance to the St. Lawrence and its upper course to the lakes.

27. The colony has reason to congratulate itself on the rapid and steady voyages made during the last summer by the steamers sailing from Quebec and Montreal. Two steam vessels of a superior class, and of 750 effective horse-power, have been added to the establishment of towing vessels in the Lower St. Lawrence. The contract for this service has been made for ten years from 1st February 1855. It was in one of the vessels employed on this service that in the course of last summer I visited the Lower St. Lawrence, Gaspé, and the Bay of Chaleurs. New lighthouses have been erected on Cape Rosier on the west end of Anticosti, and at the Straits of Belle Isle, which will shortly have done something, though not all that is required, to facilitate the entry of ships into the St. Lawrence. The new apparatus received from France for these lights is now being fitted up. Besides these, a light is preparing at Forteau Bay, which will, however, probably not be in operation before the spring of 1858.

28. On the Upper St. Lawrence, between Kingston and Brockville, principally amongst the Thousand Islands, the establishment of the tug service, and the frequent running of steamers, latterly by night, made it necessary to establish several small lights along this intricate part of the river, which is now lighted as a street.

29. Those finished and lighted since 1855 are nine in number. A light-house is being erected near Snake Island, at the entrance of Kingston Harbour, in Lake Ontario; and one has been erected on a dangerous island or shoal called the "Scotch Bonnet," in Lake Ontario, very much in the line of vessels running between Cobourg and Kingston.

30. In Lake Huron the lighthouses erected since 1855 are one on Nottawasaga Island, off Collingwood Harbour; one on the Isle of Coves, in the narrow between Lake Huron and Georgian Bay; one on Christian Island. These lighthouses are so far advanced as to permit of temporary lights being exhibited, pending the arrival and fitting-up of the permanent apparatus. One on Chantry Island, off Saugeen Harbour, is nearly completed. Others are to be erected on Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, on Griffiths Island, Point Clark, Badgley Island, and the Ducks, about midway in the main lake, and at St. Joseph's Island.

31. I ought to add, that the opening of the Grand Trunk Railway from Montreal to Toronto brings into rapid and close communication a number of cities and towns formerly cut off one from the other during winter by a long and tiresome journey. The distance from Montreal to Toronto (330 miles) is performed in fourteen hours.

32. The patriotic feeling which animated the militia of Canada, and which I had the honour to describe in my despatch of January 11, No. 9, has in no way declined. So numerous were the offers to raise volunteer troops and companies, that it became necessary to procure increased powers for accepting such services. This was done by the Act of last session, 19 Vict. Cap. 44., under which enactment, however, the supplementary companies or troops so formed receive no pay for their drill.

33. When, in addition to this circumstance, it is considered that all these gentlemen find their own uniforms, I trust Her Majesty's Government will have reason to be satisfied with the disinterested loyalty and zeal of the force so organized.

34. As the full and able report of the Adjutant General of Militia has been already transmitted to you, I need not now enter at greater length into this subject.

35. On Indian matters I forbear to write at length in this despatch. The commission, whose appointment I announced in my despatch of July 22, No. 112, is now sitting, and have not yet reported at length.

36. Perhaps after all there is no public department which will furnish a test of the progress of the country better than that afforded by the post office. An increase in the correspondence of a country marks at once the increase of business and of education. Every letter implies some reason for writing it, as well as the power of doing so on the part of some one individual. If the reason be not one of business, we may presume that it represents a feeling of family affection or friendly intercourse at least of equal value.

37. The number of post offices too is of material importance. An office established in a remote part of the country will probably for some time be

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conducted at a pecuniary loss to the public, and under the old system of colonial government would not have been established at all until the district was thoroughly settled. But to estimate the real value of each such post office by its money receipts would be very unjust. Nothing probably tends more to remove the reluctance to settle in an out-of-the-way place than the conviction that a man does not thereby forfeit the means of communicating with his friends and relatives. The establishment of such post offices is a sort of premium given by government to promote settlement; their bearing on the public business and on the administration of the government is also most material; a complaint can be sent or a petition forwarded to the seat of government without delay. The report of parliamentary proceedings and of the progress of public events keeps up the settler's interest in the business of the country, and makes him feel that he is not cut off from his countrymen, or entirely severed from a civilized community.

38. These are the views which I entertain of the value of a post office; and I therefore think that the present Postmaster General, the Honourable Robert Spence, is entitled to great credit for the zeal with which he has laboured in spreading the influence of his department as widely as possible throughout Canada.

39. The establishment of the money order system is also due to his exertions, and has been, I am persuaded, attended with great benefit to the country. The advantages derived from it will increase as the wealth of the province increases.

40. The following Table, Sir, will show the rate of growth in the number of post offices and of letters:

A.

TABULAR STATEMENT of the Progress of the Post Office in Canada since 1851 inclusive.

——	Number of Post Offices in operation.	Miles of established Post Route.	Number of Miles of annual Mail Travel.	Number of Letters passing by Post per Annum.	Money Order Offices. —— Number.	Amount of Money Order Transactions.	Number of Registered Letters passing by Post.
April 1851	601	7,595	2,487 000	2,132,000			
„ 1852	840	8,618	2,931,373	3,729,752			
„ 1853	1,016	9,122	3,430,474	4,258,592			
„ 1854	1,166	10,027	4,015,816	5,114,200		Issue of Money Orders.	
„ 1855	1,293	11,192	4,559,761	6,066,692		——	
„ 1856	1,424	12,000	5,000,000	7,500,000	A. 157	6,000*l.* per week.	B. 450,000

Note.—A. Money Order system first organized in Canada in February 1855.
B. Present Registered Letter system commenced in May 1855.

Post Office Department, Toronto,
October 21, 1856.

41. It must be observed that the number of miles of mail travel represents the facilities for the despatch and receipt of letters by more frequent delivery as well as by the larger number of stations. It affords, therefore, the more accurate test of the increased benefit derived by the public of Canada from the recent changes.

42. A complete copy of Mr. Spence's Report* is appended to this despatch.

43. One of the most important measures which was passed by my predecessor, and which I have had to carry out, was that for the settlement of the much vexed question of the Clergy Reserves (18 Vict. c. 2.)

44. I have no doubt that there are many persons who still dispute the propriety of passing such a measure at all. There are others who attack with equal vehemence the moderate form in which it was at length adopted, and who object to the commutation of the incomes of the present incumbents so as practically to supply a permanent endowment on the part, not of the Government, but of the Church Society. It is not my business to vindicate the measure itself, though perhaps the vehemence with which it has been assailed by the two extreme parties may be held by some to be the best voucher for its justice and moderation.

* This report being very voluminous is omitted.

45. The following statement will show what progress has been made in carrying out the pecuniary provisions of the Act:

B.

In re Clergy Reserves.

Commutation Settlement with Clergy.

		£	s.	d.
18 Vict. c. 2.	Amount paid Church of England - - - -	279,988	19	10
	„ „ Scotland - -	129,688	16	0
	„ Wesleyan - - - -	9,915	1	6
	„ Roman Catholic - - - -	17,396	7	6
	Amount retained to pay Roman Catholic Clergy when called for - - - - - -	3,536	7	6
		£ 440,525	12	4
18 Vict. c. 2.	Amount of uncommuted stipends and widow annuity fund - - - - - - (This amount is invested, and held by the government.)	46,883	18	3
18 Vict. c. 2. 19 Vict. c. 16.	Amount (now) distributing amongst the various municipalities of Upper Canada, being balance in hand on 31st December last to the credit of Upper Canada -	304,423	7	6
	Amount of balance on hand to credit of Lower Canada for distribution on 31st December last - - -	24,723	2	9
	This latter amount, 24,723*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, is not being distributed, as the House of Assembly adopted a resolution (Journals of 1856, May 7, p. 465,) to repeal so much of 18 Vict. c. 2. as provides for the apportionment of the fund, and to apply 75,000*l.* to the building of gaols and court-houses in Lower Canada; and it is understood that next session a measure to that effect will be introduced by the government.			
	Amount now on hand for Upper Canada, to be apportioned after 31st December next (with the additional sums that may be received prior to that day), say - -	90,000	0	0
	Ditto for Lower Canada, say - - - -	2,000	0	0
	Estimate of approximate value of clergy lands still remaining unsold, and monies due on lands sold to Upper Canada Municipalities Fund, and for future yearly distribution under 19 Vict. c. 34. - - -	826,128	0	0
	Ditto - ditto Lower Canada - - - -	149,365	0	0
		£ 975,493	0	0

I value unsold lands at 10*s.* an acre in Upper Canada, and at 5*s.* an acre in Lower Canada.

The commutation is fully settled and completed; the only matter open is the value of certain debentures, which does not interfere with the amounts above mentioned.

(Signed) Jos. Morrison,
Receiver General.

46. My next business is to give some short account of what has been done under the Act for the commutation of the seignorial tenure; an Act of which the importance will be appreciated hereafter better than it now can be. It is in truth an Act for doing judicially and by course of law that which almost everywhere else has been effected only by bloodshed and revolution.

47. Is there any country in which the relics of the feudal system have disappeared without foreign invasion or domestic tumult? Yet such, I believe, will have been the case in Canada.

48. Some historian of the British Empire and its colonies may probably hereafter refer to the long existence of these rights as a proof of the conservative tendencies of English rule, and our observance of public faith. He may wonder, not that the seigneurs should have been, as they now are, with compensation, deprived of certain privileges, but rather that such privileges should have lasted so long.

49. In the recent work of an eminent French historian*, I find it stated that in the States General of 1615 the demand was made on the part of the

* A. Thierry, Hist. du Tiers Etat. I. p. 117.

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Commons of France, "Que défense soit faite à tous gentilshommes ou autre "de contraindre personne d'aller moudre à leurs moulins?" Will it be readily believed that in the year 1856 the legal existence of this very grievance was adjudicated on and affirmed by the assembled judges of Canada, and was practically dealt with by a legislative msasure?

50. I am convinced, therefore, that whatever loss in small particulars may have fallen on some of the seigneurs by the Act abolishing the feudal tenure and duties, and whatever difficulties may have stood in its way, the general opinion will hereafter be that the time had arrived when such abolition was absolutely required. The existence of the "banalité" or the "lods et ventes" as substantive rights was wholly inconsistent with the present state of society, and with the conditions of commerce between man and man in England or its colonies, more especially in a colony bordering on the United States of America.

51. We ought, I repeat, to rejoice at their abolition by a measure which professes to injure no one, and which recognizes the principle of full and complete compensation to all concerned.

52. Whether that principle will in practice have been carried out to its full extent I cannot yet say; but I have no reason to suppose that any gross injustice will be inflicted. I know of none such. The following statement may serve to show the progress hitherto made in giving effect to the Act:

SEIGNORIAL TENURE.

STATEMENT exhibiting the Number of Seignories in the Districts of Ottawa, Montreal, and Three Rivers, in which the Cadastres are completed, also the Progress towards Completion of them in other Seignories in the said Districts, on the 27th October 1856.

Number of Seignories in the Districts of	Preparatory Work completed.	Wheat, Corvées, and other casual Rights estimated.	Emplacements estimated.	Cadastres completed and closed.
Ottawa and Montreal, sixty-five -	64	45	40	9
District of Three Rivers, thirty-two -	26	17	19	1
Fiefs in the Districts of Ottawa, Montreal, and Three Rivers, sixteen - - - -	9	6	6	—

	£	s.	d.
Approximate statement of the annual amount payable to seignors in the districts of Ottawa, Montreal, and the Three Rivers, for interest on lods et ventes - - - - - - - -	23,302	19	3
Statement of amounts paid to seignors in the districts of Ottawa, Montreal, and Three Rivers, from the 25th July 1856 up to the 26th October 1856, on account of interest accrued on lods et ventes in their respective seignories up to the 1st July 1856 - - - - -	24,079	16	7
Statement of expenses attending the working of the seignorial commission in the districts of Ottawa, Montreal, and Three Rivers, from its organization (January 1855) up to the 1st October 1856 - -	6,719	9	8
Which sum (6,719*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*) for eighteen months gives a monthly average of 320*l.*, or for one year - - - - -	3,840	0	0
In addition to the above the commissioners have paid during the period above mentioned the sum of 339*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to the surveyor and to other parties connected with the surveying department.			

Districts of Quebec, Kamouraska, and Gaspé.

200 land rolls (cadastres) or schedules have been received up to the 31st October 1856. (250 will be about the total number.)

Approximate amount of lods et ventes to be paid to seignors in the above-mentioned districts will be between 13,000*l.* and 14,000*l.* Amount paid about 11,000*l.*

131 plans have been made and copied by the surveyor.

53. The progress of education in Upper Canada has always been intimately connected with our municipal system, and has undoubtedly done much to promote the general progress of the country.

54. The contents of the able report* of Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Education for the year 1855, are of deep interest to the whole community. I annex a copy of this report to the present despatch, as well as one of that made by the Superintendent of Education for Lower Canada.*

55. It may, however, be well to state here some of the principal results given by Dr. Ryerson.

	£
Legislative grant apportioned to municipalities for common schools, 1855	24,474
Local municipal assessment for the same purposes	45,123
Increase over the preceding year	12,126
Local trustees school assessments for 1855	109,711
Increase over preceding year	16,045
Amount expended on school sites and buildings	34,272
Increase	12,115
Amount of teachers' salaries	170,027
Increase	25,309
Total expenditure for common school purposes, 1855	224,818
Increase	23,700
Total number of pupils	227,864
Increase	23,696
Common schools open	3,325
Increase	81

There were last year 3,710 educational institutions in Upper Canada, on which 288,998*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* was expended.

56. With regard to the normal school at Toronto, the Chief Superintendent says, "The efficiency of the normal school has in every respect been maintained, "and in some respects I think improved. The practical and thorough "character of the mode of teaching, as far as the limited period of attendance "on the part of student-teachers generally admits, favourably compares with "that which I have witnessed in any other country, as also the energy and "zeal of the able masters. The demand for teachers from the normal school, "and the remuneration offered them, have increased in proportion as they "have become known, and much more rapidly than it is possible to train "them."

57. It is much to be regretted that a strong and bitter feeling has been excited on the subject of separate schools in Upper Canada. Dr. Ryerson states deliberately, "No example of proselytism under its operation" (that of the common school system) "has ever occurred, and no charge of partiality "in its administration has ever been substantiated."

58. I have no reason to doubt the truth of these assertions, and upon the whole I am advised that to leave the school law of Upper Canada in its present condition as regards separate schools is far better than to aggravate the disputes which have arisen, and thus create matter for fresh controversy, by causing the government to propose to Parliament any modification of its provisions.

59. Dr. Ryerson sums up his whole statement in the following words, to which I desire especially to call your attention:

60. "During the last ten years, while the aggregate population of Upper "Canada has increased about three tenths, the actual attendance of pupils at "the public schools and the amount raised for the salaries of teachers has "considerably more than doubled, and a corresponding improvement has taken "place in the character and qualifications of teachers, the methods of teaching, "the character and condition of schoolhouses, and efficiency of the schools, "besides the introduction of an uniform series of text books, maps, apparatus, "and libraries. And when it is recollected that there is no state school tax in "Upper Canada, that the school tax is imposed by each municipality for "itself, and at its own option, under the influence of no other compulsion than "that of public duty, and legislative aid to a limited amount is offered, it is

* These reports being very voluminous are omitted.

CANADA.

" most gratifyng to know that this system of national organization, combined " with voluntary local municipal action and co-operation, is successful beyond " comparison; so much so, that the amount raised by local self-imposed " taxation on the part of the people of Upper Canada for the salaries of school " teachers is larger in proportion to population than that raised for the same " purpose in the older and larger state of New York, and the average time of " keeping our schools open during each year is one month more than that of " keeping the public schools open in the state of New York, and two months " longer than the average time each year of keeping the public schools open " in the state of Massachusetts."

61. With regard to Lower Canada, steps have been taken by the Honourable Mr. Chauveau, the able and zealous Superintendent of the department in that section of the province, to organize model and normal schools, both at Montreal and Quebec, under the Act of last session. At the latter city the school will be connected with Laval College, and will therefore probably be resorted to by Roman Catholics rather than by Protestants. At Montreal there will be two schools, one of which will be practically Catholic, and the other, being in connection with M'Gill University, will no doubt attract the masters destined to teach the Protestant population. No legal exclusion, however, from these schools, on religious grounds, will exist; but there can be little doubt that in practice they will respectively afford the means of instruction to Catholics and Protestants desirous of educating themselves as teachers.

62. I now close this miscellaneous despatch, which I submit to Her Majesty's Government, not as containing a complete or satisfactory account of the present condition of Canada, but rather as indicating the several points in which the measures of my predecessor are being carried out by me; and the progress of the people, commenced under his administration, may be said yet to be in course of development.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) EDMUND HEAD.

VA SCOTIA.

NOVA SCOTIA.

No. 2.

No. 2.

Copy of DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor Sir J. Gaspard le Marchant to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 23.)

Government House, Halifax, February 14, 1856.

Sir,

(Received February 25, 1856.)

b. 13, 1856.

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for the year 1854, accompanied with a letter addressed to me by the Provincial Secretary, explanatory of the causes which have retarded the earlier transmission of these books for the last three years, and promising that for the future no such inconvenient delay in preparing and forwarding them to Her Majesty's Government shall again occur.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. GASPARD LE MARCHANT.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Provincial Secretary's Office, Halifax,
February 13, 1856.

Sir,

Your Excellency having required from me an explanation of the circumstances of the Blue Book for the years 1853 and 1854 not having been yet prepared for transmission to England, I beg leave to state, for your information, some of the causes which have led to that result.

I feel, however, that these, which have been reported to me by the principal clerk in my department, who for many years past has been charged with the particular duty referred to, will not be regarded either by your Excellency or Her Majesty's Government as affording a sufficient excuse for the delay which has thus taken place, and which your Excellency has endeavoured to avert by urgent and repeated admonitions to me, since I assumed, in April 1854, the office which I have the honour to hold.

Painfully conscious of this official irregularity, and deeply regretting the inconvenience which it may have occasioned, I venture to assure your Excellency that I have taken such measures as will effectually prevent the recurrence of it, and as will ensure the preparation and transmission to Her Majesty's Government at the earliest possible period in this present year, of a Blue Book for the year 1855 framed in strict accordance with the instructions contained in the Circular Despatch of the 22d of September last.

To that end I purpose immediately to increase, to the utmost extent of the means at my disposal, the staff of clerks in my department; a measure which I have found by experience absolutely necessary to its accomplishment.

The Blue Book now handed to your Excellency for transmission to Downing Street is for 1854, and that for the preceding year, now in course of preparation, shall as soon as possible be forwarded also.

The principal clerk in this office, in his statement to me, to which I have already adverted, says—

"It became apparent in the first year of your tenure of office as Provincial "Secretary that the book for 1853, which from unavoidable causes was in- "complete, could scarcely be furnished sooner than that for 1854; and it was "deemed advisable to prepare and forward that for the latter year first, as "conveying the latest intelligence.

"On myself, as principal clerk, devolved the preparation of the abstracts of "trade and revenue and expenditure returns, and other important portions "of the book.

"Owing to changes in the department, and the mode of obtaining the "returns, and more particularly in consequence of the unusually late period "of the publication of the public accounts and returns upon which it has been the "practice to rely for procuring much of the information which I am charged "to collect, there has been a considerable increase of labour, and an unavoid- "able postponement of the period at which it is possible on my part to "complete these portions of the book, without a change of system, which for "the prevention of future inconvenience it will be necessary to introduce.

"Ordinarily, the legislative journals and public documents of the year are "published in June or July at the latest; but in the past year these did not "reach this office until the middle of October, and the returns of 1854 were "from this cause practically inaccessible until that time, when, from the "pressure of other avocations, the officer referred to was unable to give "exclusive attention to the preparation of the accounts and tables involving "the necessity of the conversion from currency to sterling of every item of "receipt and expenditure, and imposing the obligation of delaying to complete "the tables until calls for information are answered by other departments."

I have, &c.
(Signed) LEWIS MORRIS WILLIAMS.

His Excellency Sir J. Gaspard Le Marchant,
&c. &c. &c.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

No 3.

No. 3.

Copy of DESPATCH from Lieut. Gov. the Hon. J. H. T. Manners Sutton to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 4.) Government House, Fredericton, New Brunswick, January, 23, 1857.

Sir, (Received February, 23, 1857.)

1. I have the honour to transmit to you in duplicate the Blue Book of this province for the year 1855.

These returns do not, it is true, present any marks of decided improvement or progress in prosperity; but, when considered in connexion with the circumstances of the time to which they refer, they must, I think, be regarded as being on the whole of a satisfactory character.

2. You are, Sir, aware, from my Blue Book Despatch for the preceding year, 1854, that that year, although distinguished at its commencement by an unprecedented extension of commercial operations in the province, closed in gloom. At the commencement of the year 1855 large stocks of goods imported during the previous year remained unsold in the hands of the merchants here, and during the year the staple articles of export, viz., timber, wood-goods, and ships, were depressed in value, while freights were high. This condition of affairs necessarily exercised a very unfavourable influence on the public revenue of the province as well as upon its trade.

3. But, although the year 1855 was one of commercial languor here, it was unmarked by any event which would at any time have given rise to the impression, or even justified the apprehension, that the commercial depression which existed would outlive the temporary causes to which it was clearly attributable; and indeed, notwithstanding the depressed state of the trade, and consequent diminution of the revenue of the province, during the year 1855, the occurrences of that year afford more than one subject of sincere congratulation.

4. Firstly, then, the sanitary condition of the province, generally very good, was never better than during the period referred to, although the violence with which the cholera had raged in some localities, and especially in St. John, during the preceding autumn, and the suddenness with which the disease disappeared, seemed to afford but little prospect that the province would enjoy a complete immunity from its recurrence during the succeeding summer.

5. Again, much of the produce of the province, both lumber and fish, which would, in a similar condition of affairs, have been, previously to the existence of the Reciprocity Treaty, of little value, if not absolutely unsaleable, found a ready market in the United States; and thus, while it is clear that the trade and industry of the province has already derived great benefit from the treaty referred to, abundant proof has been afforded that still greater benefits may hereafter be expected from the operation of this treaty.

6. Nor was the depression which existed in the timber trade entirely devoid of countervailing advantages; for the absence during the year 1855 of those inducements which have too often led farmers here to regard the careful management of their farms as secondary in importance to the success of some speculation in lumber, coupled with the high price of provisions, gave a stimulus to the prosecution of agricultural operations, which was much needed at the time, and from which it may perhaps be hoped that permanent benefit may flow. At all events, I believe that there is both an increased appreciation of the difficulty of successfully combining together the two

very different occupations of a lumberer and a farmer, and a growing sense of the importance of introducing into the existing system of agriculture here the improvements without which it cannot be expected that the amount of agricultural produce will be proportionate to the extent and natural fertility of the land under cultivation.

7. In connexion with this point I may remark, that, while it would obviously be impossible, and if it were possible it would be unwise, in a colony where labour is dear, capital comparatively scarce, and land very cheap, to conduct agricultural operations on the same scale or according to the system which has been with success adopted in the highly-farmed districts of Great Britain, where labour is comparatively cheap, capital abundant, and land very dear, there are, nevertheless, certain primary rules which are as applicable here as in Great Britain; and I am confident that the adherence to these rules, with the introduction of such improvements in implements and in the culture of the soil as science and practical experience combined may dictate, would be attended with success; for the soil is fertile, and the climate, although severe in the winter, is during the remainder of the year remarkably favourable to the progress of vegetation. Indeed the marvellous rapidity with which crops of every description, and especially root crops, attain maturity, goes far to counteract, if it does not entirely compensate, for the shortness of the summer.

8. Nor should I omit to bring before your notice that during the year 1855 events occurred which afford ground for believing that the mineral wealth of the province will now be turned to far better account than it was before. For some years previously to the year referred to, no doubt had been entertained of the existence in the province of iron, coal, copper, and various other minerals; and indeed some progress had been made in working mines which had been discovered; but the conflict which arose between the licensees of the Crown, to whom the right to the minerals belonged in virtue of their licences, and the landowners, materially impeded the extension of mining operations, and in some instances stopped those which had been already commenced.

9. In the session, however, of 1855, an Act was passed, entitled "An Act relating to Mines and Minerals," and Her Majesty's assent was subsequently given to that Act, which contained a suspending clause. The conflicting claims which had so seriously interfered with the development of the mineral wealth of the province were thus settled, and I hope and believe that the province will now derive the full benefit of the valuable mineral deposits which are no doubt in existence here.

10. I have the satisfaction also of believing that the admission, by the Reciprocity Treaty, of the produce of the fisheries here, free of duty, into the United States, has given a stimulus to this branch of industry; and I trust that a full appreciation of the true value of the fisheries may lead to greater vigour in the enforcement of the regulations necessary for their preservation.

11. You are aware that shipbuilding is carried on here to a large extent, and with great success; and, under ordinary circumstances, a considerable number of ships are annually either built here under contract for owners in the United Kingdom, or, having been built on speculation, are despatched with a cargo across the Atlantic, and sold on their arrival at the port of their destination. In a preceding passage in this Despatch I have adverted to the fact, that in the year 1855 there was not the same demand as in the preceding year for new ships at Liverpool or elsewhere in the United Kingdom, and, accordingly, the number of ships built here during the year 1855 was less than that of the ships built in the year 1854. But the enclosed Return, marked A., shows that, even under the unfavourable circumstances referred to, no less than 95 vessels, of an aggregate tonnage of 54,561 tons, were built in this province in the year 1855. The Returns marked B., C., D., and E., which show the number and tonnage of the ships registered at the several ports of the province, afford a gratifying proof of the commercial enterprise of its inhabitants. Before I quit this subject,

Encl. 1.

Encls. 2, 3, 4, and 5.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

I should remark that the ships annually built in this province, and sold elsewhere, (of which both the number and aggregate tonnage is, as I before observed, usually large,) are in fact exported manufactures of a very valuable character, the more valuable as articles of export because their value is derived chiefly from the labour employed and the skill displayed in their construction. But the ships thus built here, and sold elsewhere, cannot properly appear in the export returns, and these returns therefore present in this respect a very inadequate record of the value of the industrial produce of the province for which a market is annually found elsewhere than in the province.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

ıcl. 1. in No. 3.

Enclosure 1. in No. 3.

A.

ABSTRACT of new Vessels registered in the Province of New Brunswick, and Vessels built in the same Place for Owners in the United Kingdom, but not registered during the Years 1854 and 1855 respectively.

	No. of Ships.	Tons.	No. of Ships.	Tons.	No. of Ships.	Tons.
1854.						
Saint John:						
New Vessels registered - -	97	70,801				
Built for Owners in the United Kingdom - - -	11	10,578				
			108	81,379		
Miramichi:						
New Vessels registered - -	14	8,642				
Built for Owners in the United Kingdom - - -	9	7,784				
			23	16,426		
Saint Andrew's:						
New Vessels registered - -	3	635				
Built for Owners in the United Kingdom - - -	1	986				
			4	1,621		
					135	99,426
1855.						
Saint John:						
New Vessels registered - -	75	39,486				
Built for Owners in the United Kingdom - - -	1	1,500				
			76	40,986		
Miramichi:						
New Vessels registered - -	- -	- -	14	11,671		
Saint Andrew's:						
New Vessels registered - -	- -	- -	5	1,904		
					95	54,561
Decrease in 1855 as compared with 1854 - - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	40	44,865

Custom House, Saint John, N. B.,
9th February 1856.

(Signed) W. SMITH,
Registrar.

Enclosure 2. in No. 3.

B.

ABSTRACT of Account of Shipping belonging to the Port of Saint John, New Brunswick, on the 31st December 1855, as furnished to the Chief Registrar of Shipping, London. Encl. 2. in No. 3.

	No. of Ships.	Tons.	No. of Ships.	Tons.	No. of Ships.	Tons.
Total Amount of last Year's Account on 31st December 1854					581	118,851
Add One Vessel struck off erroneously by late Controller					1	844
Deduct Difference between Tonnage under Act 8 & 9 Vict. cap. 89. and Merchant Shipping Act 1854 on four Vessels						240
Struck off the foregoing Account, viz.:					582	119,455
Vessels wrecked, burnt, foundered, missing, or unseaworthy			40	10,157		
Sold to Foreigners			6	2,154		
Registered de novo at St. John, and transferred to other Ports			54	27,258		
					100	39,569
Balance of existing Vessels registered up to 31st December 1854					482	79,886
Add Vessels registered in 1855:						
New Vessels			75	39,486		
Registered de novo			22	2,497		
Foreign Vessels			5	495		
			102	42,478		
Struck off in 1855:						
Vessels wrecked, burnt, foundered, missing, or unseaworthy	5	774				
Sold to Foreigners	1	529				
Registered de novo, and transferred to other Ports	12	10,610				
			18	11,913		
					84	30,565
Existing Vessels on 31st December 1855, at St John, N. B.					566	110,451

Custom House, Saint John, N. B.,
9th February 1856.

(Signed) W. SMITH,
Registrar of Shipping.

Enclosure 3. in No. 3.

C.

Encl. 3. in No. 3.

ABSTRACT of Account of Shipping belonging to the Port of Miramichi, New Brunswick, on the 31st December 1855, as furnished by the Registrar at that Port, for the Chief Registrar of Shipping, London.

	No. of Ships.	Tons.	No. of Ships.	Tons.
Total Amount of last Year's Account			103	10,063
Struck off, viz.:				
Registered de novo, and transferred to other Ports			10	4,394
Balance of Vessels registered up to 31st December 1854, still in existence			93	5,669
Add Vessels registered in 1855:				
New Vessels	14	11,671		
Registered de novo	2	483		
	16	12,154		
Struck off in 1855:				
Registered de novo, and transferred to other Ports	4	2,554		
			12	9,600
Total Number of existing Vessels at Miramichi on 31st December 1855			105	15,269

Custom House, Saint John, N. B.,
9th February 1856.

(Signed) W. SMITH,
Registrar of Shipping at St. John, N. B.

NEW UNSWICK.

Enclosure 4. in No. 3.

D.

4. in No. 3.

ABSTRACT of Account of Shipping belonging to the Port of Saint Andrew's, New Brunswick, on the 31st December 1855, as furnished by the Registrar at that Port for the Chief Registrar of Shipping, London.

	No. of Ships.	Tons.	No. of Ships.	Tons.
Total Amount of last Year's Account - -	- -	- -	193	11,696
Struck off, viz.:				
Vessels wrecked, burnt, foundered, missing, or unseaworthy - - - -	1	19		
Registered de novo, and transferred to other Ports - - - - -	12	1,268		
			13	1,287
Balance of Vessels registered up to 31st December 1854, still in existence - - -	- -	- -	180	10,409
Add Vessels registered in 1855:				
New Vessels - - - -	7	1,948		
Registered de novo - - -	8	215		
			15	2,163
Total Number of existing Vessels at Saint Andrew's, N. B., on 31st December 1855 -	- -	- -	195	12,572

Custom House, Saint John, N. B., 9th February 1856.

(Signed) W. SMITH, Registrar of the Port of Saint John, N. B.

5. in No. 3.

Enclosure 5. in No. 3.

E.

ABSTRACT of Shipping belonging to the Province of New Brunswick on the 31st December 1854 and 31st December 1855 respectively.

PORTS.	1854.		1855.	
	No. of Ships.	Tons.	No. of Ships.	Tons.
Saint John - - - - -	582	119,695	566	110,451
Miramichi - - - - -	103	10,063	105	15,269
Saint Andrew's - - - -	193	11,696	195	12,572
Total - - - -	878	141,454	866	138,292
Decrease in 1855 - -	- -	- -	12	3,612

Custom House, Saint John, N. B., 9th February 1856.

(Signed) W. SMITH, Registrar of the Port of Saint John, N. B.

CE EDWARD ISLAND.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

No. 4.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor Sir D. DALY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 60.) Government House, Prince Edward Island, December 15, 1856.

(Received January 14, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith the "Blue Book" for 1855 in duplicate.

2. The statements of revenue and expenditure which it contains do not exhibit any striking change from those of the preceding year.

3. The falling off in the revenue of 1855, which had been anticipated, was not considerable, and is attributable to the operation of the free trade principle introduced by the Reciprocity Treaty with the United States, as well as to the great depression in the shipping interest, which lessened the importations generally.

4. The surplus revenue of previous years, however, renders this decrease unimportant, and when the very low rate of duty levied on articles of general consumption is considered, the financial resources of the island may be said to be in a sound and satisfactory state.

5. With reference to the excess of expenditure over revenue in the past year, it has been in a great measure occasioned by the increased amount required for carrying out the provisions of the Free Education Act, together with the grant of 2,000*l.* to the Patriotic Fund.

6. A competent master having been procured from the seminary at Glasgow, the Normal School for teachers is now in complete operation, and the benefits of the Free School system are extended to over one sixth of the whole population.

7. The exertions of the "Royal Agricultural Society" are continued in a very satisfactory manner, and gratifying evidence is not wanting of increased industry, both in the breadth of cultivation and attention to the introduction of improvements in agricultural operations generally.

8. The operation of the "Land Purchase Bill" promises so far to be successfully carried out, and consequently the great cause of discontent which has so long existed to be done away with by the gradual absorption of leasehold tenures, should the local government succeed in its views, the details of which I have already had the honour of submitting for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

9. The condition of the mercantile community is prosperous, and commercial operations are much facilitated by the establishment of the "Bank of Prince Edward Island," which has been for some months in operation.

10. The "New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company" have laid a submarine cable which is now in good working order, connecting this island with the neighbouring colonies, Newfoundland, and the United States, towards the establishment of which the local legislature has granted 300*l.*

11. The proceedings of the Corporation of Charlotte Town have been attended with considerable success in promoting order, by the establishment of a small police force, and such other improvements as their means at present permit.

12. The militia of the island has no effective character; according to law the population between the ages of sixteen and sixty are liable to serve. The regimental strength of the officers has been reorganized.

13. One volunteer infantry corps only, supplying their own clothing, and supplied with arms and accoutrements from the ordnance stores, is as yet in a state of efficiency, but is small in numbers.

14. I am happy to be enabled to assure you that I am not aware of any circumstance likely to disturb the peaceful condition of the colony.

15. I regret that I have been unable to transmit the Blue Book at an earlier period, as hitherto my best exertions have not been successful in procuring the necessary returns more expeditiously; and I regret to be obliged to add, that the inadequate assistance provided for the principal public departments, and more especially that of the Colonial Secretary, where the Blue Book is prepared, has chiefly contributed to this delay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. DALY,
Lieutenant Governor.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

NEW-FOUNDLAND.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

No. 5.

No. 5.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Darling to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 76.)

Government House, St. John's, August 31, 1856.

(Received October 6, 1856.)

Sir,

In transmitting herewith the duplicate Blue Book for the year 1855, I beg leave to accompany it with the following Report, which I was unable, for the reasons stated in my Despatch No. 55. of the 14th June last, to prepare in time to be forwarded with the original document.

Form of Government.

2. The year to which this compilation of returns relates is remarkable in the history of Newfoundland, as that in which the system of civil administration known under the designation of "Responsible Government,"—being in effect a system under which the policy of the colonial government, in all questions not essentially involving interests strictly Imperial, is directed by the "well-understood" wishes of the inhabitants, as expressed through their representatives in the colonial legislature,—was, after a long struggle between contending parties, partly as to general principles and partly as to details of arrangement, finally established and put into practical operation.

The Governor.—The Executive Council.

3. Under the form of government referred to, which is similar to that for some time past established in the other North American colonies, the sovereign is represented and the constitutional power of the Crown is exercised by a Governor appointed by Her Majesty's commission, who in the execution of such commission is enjoined by its terms to act with the assistance and advice of an "Executive Council."

The conditions of the constitution of this council are, that it shall not exceed seven in number; that the members shall be appointed by the Governor, in the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, by instruments under the public seal of the island; and that they shall hold their places during Her Majesty's pleasure. In respect to its composition, no rules or limitations are imposed upon the Governor; but as the government must be carried on with the advice and assistance of this body, and at the same time in union with the opinions and decisions of a representative body, it follows that the Executive Council must be composed of persons possessing the confidence of the majority of the representative body, and who themselves holding seats in either branch of the legislature are capable of effectually influencing its deliberations, while it is at the same time obviously convenient that it should include the principal officers of the government and the heads of departments through which the public business is transacted. To meet the difficulty which would arise from changes in the composition or in the opinions of the representative body, and the consequent withdrawal of their confidence from the Executive Council, the tenure of the members of the latter body, viz., "during the Queen's pleasure," is technically sufficient; but in practice the exercise of the power residing in the Crown is usually obviated, in accordance with the constitutional proceeding in the Imperial system, by the resignation on the part of the members, both of their seats in council and of the offices they hold, whenever they find, on the one hand, that they are unable to secure in the legislature the requisite support of the policy to which they are pledged or have avowed, or, on the other hand, that the Governor, exercising the discretion which the Royal Commission and Instructions confer upon him, shall deem it his duty to act in important questions contrary to the advice of his council. In the first Executive Council constituted under the new system in Newfoundland the offices

of Attorney-General, Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, Surveyor-General, and Solicitor-General were, upon the resignation of the former holders, conferred upon members of that body.

The Legislature.

4. The legislature is composed of the Governor and two bodies, one denominated the Legislative Council, the mebmers of which are nominated by the Crown, and the other styled the "General Assembly," the members of which are elected by such of the male inhabitants of the colony as are duly qualified by law.

The Legislative Council.

5. The Legislative Council consists of such public officers and such other persons as are named or designated by the Crown, by Royal Instruction, or warrant under the sign manual, with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council. The members hold their places during Her Majesty's pleasure. They must not be less than ten nor more than fifteen in number; and power is delegated to the Governor to appoint them provisionally, subject to Her Majesty's pleasure.

The House of Assembly.—Qualification of Members.—Qualification of Electors.

6. The General Assembly, or as it is commonly designated the "House of Assembly," was enlarged, in anticipation of the establishment of Responsible Government, and now consists of thirty members. The qualification of a member is fixed at a net annual income arising from any source whatever of 100*l.*, or the possession of property clear of all incumbrances exceeding 500*l.* in value, with residence within any electoral district of the island for a period of two years next immediately preceding the day of election. The qualification of an elector is the occupation of a dwelling-house as owner or tenant thereof for one year next immediately preceding the day of election, such dwelling being situated within the district for which the election is held, together with residence within any electoral district in the island for two years next preceding the election. Every member and elector must, moreover, be of the full age of twenty-one years and upwards, of sound understanding, a natural-born subject of Her Majesty, or have been lawfully naturalized, and never have been legally convicted of an infamous crime.

Electoral Districts.

7. For the purposes of legislative representation, ten districts have been established, all bounded by the southern coast of the island, or by the eastern coast so far north as Cape St. John.

8. This arrangement does not include that portion of the shore of Newfoundland whereon the French exercise by treaty a right of fishery, nor the coast of Labrador, which coast, from Blanc Sablon at the southern entrance of the Straits of Bellisle to the mouth of Hudson's Straits, is under the jurisdiction of the government of Newfoundland.

Number of Electors.

9. At the election in May 1855, immediately antecedent to the practical initiation of Responsible Government, 15,023 electors were found to have registered their names; but as the representation of four districts only was contested, not more than 2,338 electors recorded their votes on the occasion.

Legislative Council.—Objects to be held in view in the Construction of the Legislative Council.

10. In the operation of a legislature constituted in the manner described, the real point of difficulty is found in the composition of the Legislative Council, since, if a majority of that body be opposed to the majority of the Assembly, and enforce their opposition, they can effectually obstruct the whole course of legislation, and may produce a state of political confusion to which even the evils of an absolute government would probably be preferable. The opinions and wishes of the inhabitants of all classes must, however, be presumed to be fairly exhibited by their elected representatives, especially in a country where

the franchise is almost universal; and as it is undoubtedly the principle of "Responsible Government" that the administration of affairs shall be conducted in accordance with those opinions and wishes, it would seem that the first great object in the construction of the Legislative Council should be, while taking care that the leading interests of the community are adequately represented, to secure a general harmony of political views between that body and the Assembly, imparting to it at the same time that weight and influence in the exercise of its valuable power of checking hasty or unwise legislation which is derived from the possession of a respectable station and character, of wealth or a large stake in the community, or of superior mental qualifications, by its constituent members.

11. To discover and combine these elements in such a manner as to produce a result which should satisfy all parties in a mixed community would require, under any circumstances, a large field of selection. In Newfoundland that field was limited by the manifestation during the preliminary contest of political and religious party feeling, to a degree which forbad hopes of compromise or moderate bearing on the part of some who were otherwise in every respect eligible as members of the council.

12. Considerations both political and financial, to which it is not necessary here to advert in detail, seemed to render it expedient for the Governor to form an Executive Council possessing the confidence of the majority of the Assembly before he was in possession of the legal authority for constituting a Legislative Council separate from the Executive Council, those bodies having been previously to the receipt of that authority identical in composition.

Principles observed in the Composition of the Legislative Council in 1855.

13. This authority, when received, was therefore necessarily exercised in regard to the "personnel" of the Legislative Council, with the advice of the Executive Council, the latter body agreeing to the following principles proposed to them by the Governor as the basis upon which the selection of the members of the Legislative Council should proceed:

1st, That the council should not in the first instance exceed twelve or thirteen;

2d, That a clear working majority of that number should be undisputed supporters of the existing colonial administration; and,

3d, That the remainder should be gentlemen of respectable character and influential position, who were understood fairly to represent the policy of the minority of the Assembly, so far at least as that policy reflected the views of important sections of the colonial community.

14. The restriction as to number in the first proposition was suggested in order that the balance might be restored, if the practical working of the proceedings of the council should not be found to realize the objects contemplated by the remaining propositions.

Details of the Constitution, and Legislative Rules.

15. More minute details of the colonial constitution, of the form, functions, and powers of the component branches of the government, and the rules by which its legislative proceedings are governed, will be found in a recent publication* by John Little, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, and Solicitor to the House of Assembly, of which I beg leave to transmit a copy herewith.

Legislation.—Consolidation of Offices, and Reduction of Expenditure.

16. The government of the colony having been thus remodelled in the month of May 1855, the legislature immediately applied itself to its appropriate duties. The necessary laws were passed for sanctioning the expenditure on account of the public service which had been incurred during the early part of the then current year without legislative authority, in consequence of the refusal of the House of Assembly to vote the usual supplies, at a period which was regarded

* The Constitution of the Government of Newfoundland, by John Little, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.

as the crisis of the struggle for the change in the constitution of the island. Measures by which the consolidation of certain offices and boards, and a considerable reduction in the emoluments of the principal functionaries of the colony, both present and prospective, including a diminution upon the occurrence of the first vacancy of the salary of the Governor from 3,120*l.* to 2,000*l.* a year, were adopted.* The effect of these retrenchments, when ultimately realized, will be to create a saving of 3,490*l.* in the gross expenditure, lessened, however, by an increase on the other side in the shape of pensions, amounting to 1,125*l.*, to retiring office holders, and the salaries of new officers, of which that of Financial Secretary is the most important, to a clear present retrenchment of about 1,465*l.* per annum.

Reciprocity Treaty with the United States.—Abrogation of Import Duties on certain Articles.

17. A useful law for the regulation and management of the customs was also passed; but the most important measure adopted was the Act by which the provisions of the treaty between Her Majesty and the United States of America, of the 5th June 1854, whereby certain enlarged rights of fishery on the sea coasts and shores of British North America were granted to citizens of the United States, and reciprocal free trade (or importation without being subject to duty) of certain articles the growth and produce of the United States or the British Colonies, was extended to Newfoundland.

18. This measure did not pass without considerable opposition in the Assembly, arising partly from an apprehension that the amount of revenue which would be lost in consequence of it, estimated at about 22,000*l.*, could not be replaced without substituting either a duty on exports or such an increase of the import duties on articles which remained liable to duty as would injuriously affect the trade and commerce of the country, partly I think from an innate unwillingness in some quarters to draw closer the relations which connect the colony with the United States, and not a little from alarm lest freer commercial intercourse with that country might disturb, if not ultimately destroy, existing monopolies.

Increase of Import Duties on certain other Articles.

19. The measure decided on for supplying the estimated deficiency of revenue was an increase of the rates of many of the remaining duties of imports, the most important item in the new tariff being the ad valorem duty on unenumerated goods, wares, and merchandise, which was raised from five to seven and a half and ten per cent.

20. The commercial operations of the year to which this report relates do not afford sufficient data on which to form a sound judgment of the probable success of this measure of finance, since the increased rates contributed to swell the treasury receipts from the 21st July, while the abrogation of duties did not come into effect until the 14th of the following November. The experience of the present year hitherto is certainly favourable to the desired result; but I think that no safe conclusion can be drawn until the aggregate importations of the year shall have been ascertained.

Probable Effects of Reciprocity Treaty on Export Trade to United States.

21. Of the effect of the Reciprocity Treaty upon the export trade to the United States there seems less reason to doubt. The government at Washington put the measure practically into operation as soon as it became aware that the provisions of that treaty had been virtually adopted by the Government of Newfoundland, and very promising inferences have been drawn from the fact, that while the export of cod fish from the Port of St. John to the United States in the year 1853 was 21,386 quintals, and in 1854 14,362 quintals, yet it rose in 1855 to 60,257 quintals.

* The salary of the Governor is nominally only 3,000*l.* a year, but being paid under a law which gave the benefit of a rate of 4*s.* 2*d.* sterling to the dollar, instead of 4*s.* 4*d.*, the rate at which the dollar actually passes, it is really worth the larger amount above stated.

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22. This increase took place during the latter part of the year, after the provisions of the Reciprocity Treaty were virtually in operation in the United States; and the hope which it encourages is strengthened by the fact, that the value of the total exports from St. John's to the United States for the half-year ending the 30th June last (1856) is estimated at 37,954*l.*, as against 12,253*l.* for the corresponding half year of 1855, and for the year ending at that date is 91,209*l.*, as against 27,810*l.* for the year ending 30th June 1855. An increased price in the United States markets for both seal and cod liver oil forms, I understand, no inconsiderable element in this aggregate augmentation of the value of the exports of Newfoundland.

Revenue.—Public Debt.

23. The question of revenue was one of more than ordinary interest to the colonial ministry, who by the change of government became charged with the responsibility of advising the Governor in the conduct of public affairs, since consistency with principles formerly avowed, if not the redemption of absolute pledges, required every practicable economy in the administration of the finances, and, if possible, a diminution of taxation.

24. The reductions effected in the expenditure on account of salaries, already adverted to, afforded an earnest of the desire of the government to fulfil their promises in this regard; but in respect to the decrease of taxation, they not only had to encounter at the outset the very serious difficulty of a considerable public debt, bearing interest for the most part at five and six per cent., and repayable at various periods before the year 1876, but, moreover, when the outstanding liabilities of the government were called in, it was found that if these were to be liquidated the expenditure of the year (which had already half expired) must exceed any revenue which could be reasonably anticipated under existing laws, to such an extent as to render it necessary at once to raise an additional loan of 45,000*l.*, thus increasing the whole public debt of the colony to an aggregate of 150,000*l.*

Sources and Amount of Revenue.

25. The total revenue collected, derived from customs duties and other incidental receipts, such as light dues, rents of Crown lands, fines, licences, and fees, amounted in 1855 to 80,704*l.* When augmented by the loan above referred to and other trifling incidental receipts, it stood at a total of 126,449*l.* Reviewing the decennial period from 1846 inclusive, the highest revenue derived from customs duties was that of 1855, amounting to 73,310*l.*, the lowest, that of 1848, amounting to 53,938*l.* The highest total revenue collected from all sources was (also in 1855) 80,704*l.*; the lowest (also in 1848) 58,411*l.*

26. If the amount of receipts in aid be added, consisting for the most part of loans, either on debentures or from the savings' bank, or by the issue of treasury notes, the year 1855 still presents the highest amount, viz., 126,449*l.*, while the year 1848 was also still the lowest, viz., 59,301*l.*

Building Loans the Cause of Public Debt.

27. An examination of the financial abstracts shows clearly that the embarrassment to which I have referred originated in the loan which was raised after the destruction of the greater part of the city of St. John's by fire in 1846. This loan was resorted to for the purpose of erecting certain public buildings, and compensating parties whose interests might be injuriously affected by the prescriptions of the laws under which the rebuilding of St. John's was regulated, with a view to the improved sanatory condition of that town, to its comparative safety from conflagration, to general convenience, and also, in a certain degree, to its public adornment. The debt thus incurred was considerably augmented by subsequent loans raised for the purpose of erecting a lunatic asylum and a general penitentiary. To meet the redemption of these loans and their accruing interest from year to year no special fund was established; those charges were thrown upon the ordinary revenue; that revenue, it appears, would have proved sufficient to cover the expenditure of the colony

(including the heavy charge on account of the poor, sick, and lunatic, which, after fluctuating from 1845 to 1853 at rates the highest of which was about 13,400*l.* and the lowest about 3,000*l.*, reached in the years 1854 and 1855 an amount little short of 18,000*l.* a year), if it had not been subjected to the extraordinary burden to which I have referred, and to alleviate which no effort was made until the year 1852, when an additional ten per cent. upon the revenue collected at the port of St. John's was imposed, to reimburse in some degree the public chest for the expenditure on account of local objects under the St. John's Rebuilding Act. In the four years during which this impost has been levied it has realized only the amount of 22,062*l.*, while the amount charged on the revenue from the year 1846 inclusive for instalments of the capital repaid and interest on the loan amounts to about 108,680*l.*

Expenditure.

28. The expenditure for the year, as recorded in the Blue Book, viz., 120,926*l.*, is unduly swelled by the arrears of the year 1854, of this sum no less than 9,500*l.* being on account of the expenses of two sessions of the legislature in the year 1854, and a further amount of at least 22,500*l.* on account of the expenses of the civil government for that year.

29. The expenditure for the two years, as rendered in the Blue Book, is so blended as to make it impossible to distinguish the amount assignable to each under the several heads; and it will perhaps give a clearer idea of the position of the colony in this respect if I state the average annual expenditure for the last ten years for each branch of administration or service, together with the maximum and minimum amount during that period, which I do accordingly in the following tabular form:

Service.	Average expenditure.	Maximum during ten years, from 1848 inclusive.		Minimum during ten years, from 1848, inclusive.	
		Amount.	Year.	Amount.	Year.
	£	£		£	
Civil government	5,786	8,134	1855	4,173	1844
Collection of revenue	5,491	7,586	1847	4,274	1850
Judicial	6,250	7,723	1855	4,778	1854
Police and magistrates	5,662	11,020	1855	312	1854
Legislative	4,586	9,522	1854	3,218	1847
Ecclesiastical	567	800	1847 to 1850	300	1853 to 1855
Pensions	210	798	1855	31	1854
Poor, sick, and lunatic	11,139	17,787	1855	4,982	1850
Roads and bridges	6,184	13,184	1846	1,493	1849
Education	7,903	10,823	1854	5,128	1848
Instalments of loans repaid and treasury notes redeemed	6,352	12,343	1855	4,350	1849
Interest on loan	4,660	6,094	1853	353	1846

During these years the average total expenditure was 80,737*l.*
The maximum (1855) 120,926*l.*
The minimum (1848) 62,712*l.*

The difference between the total expenditure and the sum of the amounts given under separate heads above was expended upon public works, light-houses, gaol charges, and for other miscellaneous services varying from year to year. Wherever in the above table the maximum is in 1855 and the minimum in 1854 the extraordinary difference which appears is ascribable to the stagnation of legislative proceedings already adverted to.

30. The amount under the head "Ecclesiastical" is defrayed by the British Treasury, and is borne upon the North American clergy estimate. At the period when the maximum amount of 800*l.* was paid, it included an allowance to the Roman Catholic bishop. At the minimum of 300*l.* it is paid solely and on a reduced scale to the Lord Bishop of Newfoundland by Royal Letters Patent. The increase on the pension list is in consequence of the retiring allowances granted to the functionaries who resigned their offices upon the

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introduction of Responsible Government. By a law specially passed for the purpose there was assigned to the—

Retiring Colonial Secretary 400*l.* a year,
„ Attorney-General 350*l.* „
„ Surveyor-General 285*l.* „
„ Solicitor-General 90*l.* „

the rates being based upon the amount of previous salary combined with length of service. The law did not, however, come into operation until an advanced period of the year, and the charge on this account was therefore proportionably less than it will be in future years.

Trade and Commerce.

31. With these observations upon the revenue and expenditure I next proceed to notice briefly the trade and commerce of the country, as being the source from which the actual receipts of the treasury are supplied, in the proportion of at least eleven twelfths of the whole.

Exports.

32. By the Blue Book return of exports their total value for the year is estimated at 1,142,212*l.*, but by a statement which has been recently compiled, and includes more accurate information from the outports, the total value is placed at 1,280,468*l.*, to which must be added, at the lowest computation, 250,000*l.* on account of that portion of the Labrador trade which is not recorded in the Custom House books, making a total in round numbers of 1,630,468*l.*

33. The discrepancy between the returns referred to, and the want of details in respect to the exports from the Labrador, prevent me from stating the value of exports under their several heads as correctly as I could desire. Of the total amount stated, however, not more than about 70,000*l.* consists of re-exported articles. The remainder is the bonâ fide produce of the seas, with the exception of wood manufactures, such as hoops, shooks, spars, &c., to the extent of about 3,000*l.*, and furs, of which, as respects the Labrador, we have no account, but which, judging from information obtained during my recent visit to that coast, I am inclined to estimate at about 10,000*l.*

A. Enclosure 1. B. Enclosure 2.

34. I beg leave to append to this report two statements, A. and B., which will show the distribution of the trade, together with the number of men and amount of tonnage to which it gives employment.

Imports.

35. The total value of the imports is placed at 1,152,804*l.* (exclusive of the Labrador), which, taking a retrospect so far as the year 1840, is considerably in excess of any previous year, the years 1853 and 1854 approaching more nearly to it than any others. The increased value is no doubt a consequence of the enhanced prices occasioned by the late war. This is strikingly proved by the single article of flour, 125,008 barrels of which in 1852 were valued at 125,048*l.*, while in 1855, 119,725 barrels are valued at 263,067*l.*

36. The principal articles of imports for consumption in 1855 were in quantity and value as follows:

	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Bread	117,025 cwts.	144,737
Butter	14,862 „	51,838
Coals	21,525 tons	22,402
Cordage	449 „	23,296
Corn meal	22,522 barrels	21,194
Flour	119,725 „	263,067
Cotton manufactures	—	49,912
Fishing tackle	—	23,364
Hardware and cutlery	—	17,104
Iron and ironmongery	—	11,783

	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Leathern ware	—	49,204
Linen manufacture	—	18,702
Molasses	733,044 gallons	39,808
Oxen and cows	2,670	15,285
Pork, salted	21,865 barrels	70,212
Salt	37,794 tons	25,384
Tea	283,538 cwts.	13,609
Wine	28,624 gallons	13,354
Woollens and slops	—	88,134

37. In like manner as with the export trade, I beg to refer to the annexed returns marked C. and D. as affording information in regard to the relative value of the import trade from Great Britain, the colonies and foreign countries respectively, as well as the tonnage and number of men employed.

C. Enclosure 3.

D. Enclosure 4.

Population.

38. The pursuits and habits of the population are pretty clearly indicated by the nature and value of the imports as above given.

Produce raised and consumed in the Colony.

39. The value of produce raised and consumed in the island and on the Labrador has been roughly estimated as follows:

	£
Agricultural produce	252,922
Game; viz.	
Venison, partridge and wild fowl	10,000
Fuel	75,000
Timber and boards	75,000
Fish, fresh, of all kinds	43,000
Oil	10,600
	466,522
which, added to the value of imports for consumption, viz.	1,152,804

produces a total of 1,619,326*l.* as the consumption of 120,000 people (being the number at which the population is now estimated), in the proportion of about five males to four females, and showing an average annual rate of between 13*l.* and 14*l.* each.

Agriculture.

40. I do not know that I can better describe the present position of the agriculture of the country, and the efforts which are making to improve it, than by referring to the accompanying report of the Newfoundland Agricultural Society for the year 1855 (E.), and the list of prizes (F.) which the society propose for competition during the present year. Vast progress has undoubtedly been made since the first efforts to encourage the cultivation of the soil in the government of Sir Thomas Cochrane were set on foot. In many parts of the colony, under a system of high manuring, for which the refuse of the fish and an abundance of bog earth afford materials, remunerative crops, especially of the grasses, are obtained; but it seems impossible to anticipate a time when the agriculture of Newfoundland can be otherwise than subordinate to its fisheries, and that period will certainly not arrive until Prince Edward's Island and the neighbouring continental provinces present no further field for the employment of immigrant farmers. The comfort and independence of the inhabitants have, however, been greatly promoted by the attention already bestowed upon the productions of the field and of the garden, and by a continuance in the same course I have no reason to doubt that even more favourable results may be achieved, notwithstanding the obstacles which the uncertainty attending the advent of spring and the short duration of summer present.

E. Enclosure 5.

F. Enclosure 6.

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41. In my predecessor's, Sir Gaspard Le Marchant's, report with the Blue Book for 1847, a concise and interesting history of the agriculture and horticulture of the colony up to that period has been given. During that gentleman's administration many improvements were suggested, and superior breeds of horned stock, sheep, and poultry were introduced into the colony. All classes indeed agree in attributing a very large share of the beneficial effects which are now experienced to the assiduity and energy which his Excellency personally brought to bear upon this most important branch of social progress.

Agricultural Statistics.

42. I conclude my observations under this head by stating that the details given in the Blue Book, in the return of produce, stock, &c., are of no value, except as indicating a minimum production for the period of eleven years since 1845, upon the census returns for which year they are based. No attempt has since that period been made to collect information of this description with accuracy. I recently endeavoured to induce the Agricultural Society to take the matter in hand; but, after giving consideration to my proposal, they came to the conclusion that nothing effectual could be done without legislative aid. I hope the government will take some steps for this purpose in the next session of the legislature, in connexion with arrangements for a new census.

Manufactures.

43. A manufactory of seal oil, upon the principle of converting the fat into oil by tearing it into small particles, for which purpose suitable machinery is applied, and immediately subjecting it to the action of heat, instead of leaving it to the slower process of gradual corruption and decomposition, as usually practised, was set on foot in 1855, and has been put into operation upon a more enlarged scale and more complete plan in the present year. I understand that from the greater promptitude with which the oil thus made becomes a marketable article, and the price which in consequence of its superior clearness is given for it in the United States, there is every ground for believing that this manufacture is likely to return a very fair if not a considerable profit upon the capital embarked in it.

Catching and Preparation of Fish and their Products.

44. The catching and preparation in various ways of the several kinds of fish and their products, viz.,

Cod, dry,	Salmon,
,, pickled,	Trout,
,, sounds,	Hallibut,
,, liver oil,	Eels,
,, core,	Lobsters,
Capelin,	Seal oil,
Herrings,	,, skins,
Mackerel,	Blubber and dregs,

constitute, as is well known, the principal occupation of the inhabitants of the colony, and I am not aware that in respect to any of the processes connected with this pursuit in its numerous branches any alterations or improvements, except that to which I have just adverted, fall to be noticed in the year 1855. Much information, however, as to the mode of preparing and putting up pickled herrings, so as to adapt them for sale according to the markets to which they are sent, was obtained from several different sources, and has been extensively circulated throughout the colony.

Crime.

45. From questions connected with the material I pass to those which have reference to the moral condition of the people. In so far as this condition is indicated by the details under the head of "Gaols and Prisons," I have great pleasure in referring to the Blue Book return. It will be seen that the greatest number of prisoners in confinement at any one time during the year was

thirty-four, and the total number confined during the year only fifty-seven. Crime of a serious nature is in fact of very rare occurrence; even the offences which come under the cognizance of the magistrates are few in number, and rarely of an aggravated character; they are generally, especially in the town of St. John's, the result of drunkenness, a vice which too commonly prevails in sea-faring communities, to which reproach, I regret to say, the city of St. John's forms no exception.

Courts of Justice.

46. Disputes, which in their results might lead to litigation, are in the out settlements frequently compounded and arranged by the influence of the ministers of religion; and the magistrates and I have lately visited more than one gaol in those settlements the cells of which had not been tenanted even in a single instance for the last fifteen years. The places of temporary confinement to which I refer are not enumerated in the return. They are generally under the same roof with the district court-houses, and are not regarded as regular gaols or houses of correction. For a concise account of the existing tribunals for the administration of civil and criminal justice, their jurisdiction and powers, I beg leave to refer to the annexed minute with which Chief Justice Brady has been kind enough to furnish me (G.)

G.
Enclosure 7.

Religious and Moral Instruction.

47. The necessary connexion between the state of crime and the means of religious and moral instruction naturally leads to the notice, in the next place, of the character of those means, and the extent to which they are applied.

Ministers of Religion and Places of Worship.

48. To the maintenance either of ministers of religion or of places of worship the public resources of the colony do not in the slightest degree contribute.

The British Treasury provides 300*l.* a year in aid of the annual salary of the Lord Bishop of Newfoundland, who is of the communion of the United Church of England and Ireland, and exercises his sacred office, quoad its temporal functions, under Royal Letters Patent. The remainder (500*l.*) of the very moderate provision which is assigned to this Episcopate, with the exception of a trifling travelling allowance from British funds, granted in consequence of the Island of Bermuda being included in the diocese (and in respect of which addition to his charge the Bishop also receives 400*l.* a year), is provided by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, a society it is merely superfluous to observe here to which the inhabitants of the British Colonies and the cause of Protestant Christianity throughout the world have been long and largely indebted. In this colony, all the clergy of the Church of England, save three, are missionaries of the society, which contributes a considerable amount to their support. With the exceptions just mentioned, the ministers of religion in Newfoundland are maintained by the subscriptions of the members of the several denominations to which they belong, and by the offerings, either in money or kind, of their more immediate flocks.

49. With respect to many of them, it is not too much to assert that the collective resources of the minister scarcely afford the means of obtaining bare subsistence and clothing,—a state of dependence, and consequent anxiety, always to be lamented, and which is painfully aggravated in many instances by local circumstances, and the obligation of providing for a family.

50. Of the ministers of the Protestant Episcopal Church, there were in the year 1855 forty in the active discharge of their duties in Newfoundland and on the coast of Labrador, where two of those missionaries are and have been for the last three years permanently stationed. This number shows an increase of one third over the numerical strength of the ministry in 1846, when thirty only appear upon the returns. The increase in churches is still greater, the number being sixty-six in 1855 as against forty-nine in 1846. If the Blue Book returns for these years are compared, it would seem indeed that this augmentation of ministers and churches had been attended, not only by no increase, but by an absolute decrease, first, of the number which the churches

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could contain, and, secondly, of those who habitually attend Divine Worship. The palpable error of the first of these results justifies the belief that the second is equally fallacious; and I am happy to have it in my power to state, upon the best authority, that the attendance upon the public services of the Church of England bears at least a fair proportion to the increase of the means provided for that object. The explanation required is found in the fact that the returns for the year 1855 have not been obtained from authentic sources, and the details which they give, at all times to a great extent conjectural, are in this instance both incorrect and defective.

51. The Roman Catholic churches have increased to forty-nine in 1855 from thirty-four in 1846. The Blue Book returns do not state the number of ministers in either year, nor give details of the congregations or attendance in the year 1846. For the year 1855 it is stated, on the authority of the Roman Catholic Bishop, the Right Reverend Dr. Mullock, that the places of worship will contain about 30,000, of which the magnificent cathedral in St. John's accommodates 8,000, and that the adult population generally are punctual in their attendance at the chapels in their respective districts.

52. The Protestant Episcopal and Roman Catholic population of the colony are computed respectively, the first at about 42,000, and the latter at about 56,000. The Wesleyan Methodist communion claim about 18,000 as the number of attendants at their places of public worship, and there are thirty-seven chapels, forty "preaching places," and thirteen missionaries and assistant missionaries maintained by the society in Newfoundland. Besides these, there is a chapel for the followers of the Church of Scotland, one for the members of the Free Presbyterian Church, and also a Congregational Church, all three situated in the city of St. John's, and duly provided with competent and (as I have every reason to believe) exemplary ministers.

Education.

53. Public education is largely assisted from the colonial revenue. The amount expended in 1855 was 8,871*l.*, being about a ninth part of the whole revenue collected, and the following has been the expenditure on this account in ten successive years, terminating with the year referred to, viz.:

	£
1846	6,628
1847	6,067
1848	5,128
1849	6,015
1850	8,580
1851	7,748
1852	9,530
1853	9,645
1854	10,823
1855	8,871

54. These amounts include, not only the annual appropriations, but also a fixed sum of 600*l.* a year specially assigned under a permanent Act to the masters of three different branches, namely, the Roman Catholic, the Church of England, and the "General Protestant" of the St. John's Academy, an institution founded in the year 1844 "for the instruction of youth in the "several branches of scientific and classical learning;" an object which, under existing arrangements, is, I understand, satisfactorily carried out.

Division of Sum annually appropriated to Education.—Colonial Church and School Society.—Educational Statistics.

55. The sum annually appropriated is divided into nearly equal proportions for the education of Protestant and Roman Catholic children, after making some trifling provision for eight commercial schools at the outports, wherein navigation and the elements of nautical knowledge are expected to be taught. The appropriation and expenditure of the sums apportioned to the several districts of the colony are committed by law to boards appointed by the

Governor, under certain limitations as to the number, religious creed, and clerical functions of their component members. It is required that the Roman Catholic Board be composed exclusively of Roman Catholics, while the Protestant Boards must unite all denominations of Protestants in the district, and the majority of each Board be of the same persuasion as the majority of the inhabitants of such district. My observation and experience of the working of the Protestant Boards have led me to the conclusion that the principle on which they are based is not favourable generally to the cause of education, while it is productive in many instances of social discord in the small communities of the outports, where the elements for the proper composition of such institutions are not always to be found. Out of the proportion of the educational grant assigned to Protestant children, 500*l.* sterling is paid in aid of the operations of the "Colonial Church and School Society," an association in which the "Newfoundland School Society" became merged a few years ago. These societies have conferred very great advantages upon the youth of Newfoundland. The expenditure of the Colonial Church and School Society, exclusive of the 500*l.* from the public revenue, amounted in the year 1855, to about 1,450*l.* sterling, derived principally from the society's funds, but including also voluntary contributions in the colony, and a small amount under the head of "Fees." The following is an abstract of the educational statistics given in the Blue Book returns:

	Number of schools.	Number of scholars.			Remarks.
		Male.	Female.	Total.	
Colonial Church and School Society	29	1,341	1,213	2,554	*The Total includes 139 attending one school, of which the sexes are not distinguished.
Protestant Board Schools	72	1,523	1,318	2,985*	
Roman Catholic Board Schools	79	2,659	2,552	5,211	
Wesleyan Society Schools	16	493	337	882	
Commercial Schools	8	—	—	217	The masterships of two of these schools vacant.
St. John's Academy, 3 branches	3	—	—	89	
Grammar Schools	2	—	—	83	
Presbyterian Normal School	1	—	—	60	
Free School	1	—	—	73	
Presentation Convent Schools (Roman Catholics)	5	—	1,375	1,375	
Orphan Asylum, St. John's (Roman Catholic)	2	—	—	73	
	218	6,021	6,795	13,602	

Private Schools.—General Attendance at School.

56. Besides the above there are a few private schools situated in St. John's and the other districts of the island, at which probably some three or four hundred children of the upper and middling classes are instructed. The above figures may be taken to include every child to whom scholastic instruction in any degree, however inferior, or to any extent, however limited, is imparted. There is I think, upon the whole, a commendable desire upon the part of the operative classes that their children should receive some sort of education; but the demands of the fishing season, upon which the mass of the population depend for support, and during which all but the younger children are consequently employed at the fishery, together with the scattered condition of the inhabitants, many of whom dwell in remote and comparatively inaccessible places, materially diminish the advantages which even the existing means might otherwise afford.

Quality of Education.

57. No system of school inspection is at present in force; but my own observation (limited, I freely admit), coupled with the information I have derived from many persons competent to judge, leaves no doubt on my mind that the quality of the so-called education which the majority of the juvenile population generally receive is of an ordinary and very defective description.

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The frequency with which salaries from 30*l.* down to 10*l.*, including all emoluments, appear upon the rolls, is of itself almost a sufficient proof of the correctness of this opinion.

58. I fear, nevertheless, there would be difficulty in inducing the legislature to revise the plan upon which aid is now given to schools. Through the good offices of the Governor-General of Canada, I have obtained a complete set of reports and other documents relating to education in the provinces under his government, exhibiting the details of the system, the excellent results of which are so strongly depicted in the Earl of Elgin's Blue Book Report for the year 1853. I trust that the valuable information which those documents contain may be turned to future account in the interest of the rising generation of Newfoundland.

Pauperism.

59. A review, however cursory, of the circumstances affecting the physical and moral condition of the people, would be very imperfect if it omitted reference to the extent to which eleemosynary relief to the able-bodied has of late years been habitually granted from the public funds.

60. Previously to my assumption of the administration, my attention had been directed to this unusual and startling feature of a colonial system, and on the first occasion of meeting the legislature I brought the subject under their notice, in the following passages of the speech which I then addressed to them, viz.: "I learn with deep regret that that important branch of our commercial "industry, the seal fishery, has this year failed to produce even an average "return, and that the condition of a very considerable proportion of our "population is such as to render it impossible to avoid extending to them "a large amount of eleemosynary as well as other aid, at the charge of the "public revenue. The rapid growth and present extent of pauperism consti-"tute indeed an evil of appalling magnitude. An unnatural element in any "colonial community, and lying as a canker at the very root of political "and social prosperity,—your early and earnest attention will, I am confi-"dent, be given to an examination of the causes by which it has been "produced or fostered, and to the application of such remedies as may be "within your reach.

"Many new channels of employment will probably result from a freer "commercial intercourse with the United States; and the development of "those resources, which, although hitherto comparatively neglected, there "seems no doubt that this colony itself possesses, would, I sanguinely anticipate, "open a wide field into which, by judicious legislation, the industry of our "hardy and adventurous people might be successfully directed, not only "without disturbance of, but possibly with much advantage to, those settled "pursuits to which British capital and enterprise have so long been profitably "devoted."

Recommendation of the Assembly in respect to Pauperism.

61. By the address in reply the Assembly pledged themselves that "Atten-"tion should be given to an examination of the causes by which the prevailing "pauperism has been produced, and to the adoption of such remedies as may "be deemed practical and effectual." In pursuance of this pledge a committee was appointed, who took evidence upon the subject, and reported that "very experienced persons" all agreed that the pauperised state of the operative population was attributable to causes entirely independent of legislative control, and recommended that in cases wherein eleemosynary aid is considered necessary, the recipient should be relieved in money instead of food, and that labour of some kind or other should in all practicable cases be strictly exacted in return for gratuitous relief.

Causes of Pauperism.

62. Between twenty and thirty persons resident in different parts of the island, who, from their avocations, were likely to be well informed upon the subject, all agreed in considering the proximate causes of distress to be a short

catch and low price of fish; the potato disease, occasioning deficient crops; the high price of imported provisions, which was greatly augmented by the war; the want of employment in winter months; the absence in some out-districts of fixed mercantile establishments, from which clothing and provisions could be obtained; and, in many instances, the curtailment in extent of the credit system by large mercantile houses in St. John's and elsewhere. One or two witnesses only ventured upon the opinion that the want of provident habits in the people contributed in some degree to their suffering condition at periods when they had not the current means of support.

63. The evidence of the Colonial Secretary, the Honourable John Kent, a gentleman who possesses considerable experience in the colony, in which he has for some years past occupied commercial, political, and official positions, is the only evidence which seems to me to take a large view of the question, and to point clearly to the root of the evil. I therefore give his opinion in this place in his own words as follows, viz.:

"The general cause of the pauperism of this country is, that the operative "population attempt to live for twelve months on the labour of three or four "months.

"I believe the prevailing severe pauperism is only the crisis of a long state "of disease. In order to illustrate my position, it is necessary to try back for "some years, and inquire into the state of the law that regulated the dealings "between merchant and planter, master and servant, commonly called the law "of Current Supply. To any one investigating the social results of that law, "which I have not now time to do, it will be apparent that its effect was to "direct the attention of the people solely and entirely to the prosecution of the "fisheries; it gave the operative population of the country great contentment "and security; the merchant supplied them for the fishery season, took into "his warehouses the proceeds of the voyage, paid the servants' wages, and "advanced them supplies for the coming winter; in fact, the result was to keep "the people in a state of minority or tutelage. The closest approximation to "the state of things I wish to describe is the present state of the inhabitants "of Fortune Bay. There, though the law of Current Supply does not exist, "the merchant carries it out in spirit and effect, and, in consequence, pauperism "is unknown; but in my opinion the cost of that absence of pauperism, owing "to the system I have just described, is a population incapable of expansion, "a neglect of every other employment save the system of the fishery, and bye-"and-bye, when the system ceases to operate, the subjecting the present "population to the same trials and hardships which the other parts of the "island suffered on the change of the system here, and also the same incapacity "on the part of the population of Fortune Bay to resist its disastrous results. "When the system of current supply had fallen into desuetude, either by the "judgments of the courts or by the expiry of the Statute Law, it placed in "the hands of the capitalist the power which labour is entirely incapable of "resisting. In fact, owing to the effects of former laws upon the social position "of our operative population, there is no fair field between capital and labour, "and in the unequal contest pauperism gradually set in, and a crisis was "principally brought on by the fire and gale of 1846, and the potato disease "of 1847.

"The principal remedy is a complete revolution in the moral feelings which "govern the proceedings of merchant and planter, which can be only brought "about by a reciprocal free agency between both parties in their contracts. "A determination to effect this can be achieved by the inhabitants themselves; "legislation can only come in as an auxiliary; but legislation may be made "useful by encouraging existing sources of employment, and by creating new "ones."

64. It might have been added, that the inhabitants of Fortune Bay are enabled, from their more favourable situation on the south coast of the island, to pursue the fisheries throughout the year, and are in this respect in direct contrast to those who are compelled "to attempt to live for twelve months on "the labour of three or four months." The same advantage is possessed by the fishing population along the whole south coast to the westward of Fortune Bay, and "pauperism" is unknown there; but with respect to the other districts, I have no doubt that helplessness, or, in other words, the absence of

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the knowledge how to provide economically for their wants, engendered by the system to which Mr. Kent's evidence refers, together with the habit of using provisions and clothing much better in quality and therefore higher in price than is customary with the working population even of the mother country, has a large share in producing the destitution which at seasons is so severely felt amongst the labouring classes of the colony. Distress, first heavily experienced under the combined visitations of the calamitous fire of 1846, the potato disease, and short fisheries, absolutely called for relief in many instances. Gratuitous relief once imparted, produced its inevitable consequence,—a desire again to participate in so easy a mode of mitigating the pressure of want. By degrees, and those rapid degrees, "use begat the habit," until relief to the able-bodied, either gratuitously, or by giving them work little better than nominal in value and importance, has at last become so recognized a feature of the administrative system that in the last session of the legislature leading and intelligent members of the Assembly were found contending for an apportionment of the public revenue for poor relief, simply in proportion to the numerical population of districts.

65. If employment during the winter season in trades (as is the case with the population of the western coast of the Bay of Fundy and the shores of the state of Maine) or otherwise could be found for the fishermen of Newfoundland, the remedy the most effectual, and on every account the most desirable, would be supplied; but I do not see how the government of a free country can bring about the application of capital necessary to this end; or that more can be done by the executive than to reduce the public expenditure on account of pauperism to the minimum point, by adopting in every practicable case the principle of giving none other relief than that which is accepted within the doors of a "workhouse."

66. Of the amount expended under the head of sick, poor, and lunatic, in 1855, the following are the details, as shown by a return furnished to me:

	£
Expended in gratuitous relief of the poor - - -	14,455
Number so relieved (but the return is imperfect), 6,400, or 1,280 families.	
Expended in employment of paupers in roads, streets, &c. -	662
Number so relieved, 434.	
Lunatic Asylum - - - - - -	1,797
St. John's Hospital - - - - - -	53
Seed potatoes - - - - -	820
Total - -	17,789

Civil Establishment.

67. I have now to notice the fixed civil establishment, which at the close of the year 1855 consisted of the following officers, viz.:

Civil Departments.

The Governor.
  Private Secretary.
The Colonial Secretary.
  2 Clerks.
The Receiver General (combining the duties of Treasurer and Collector of Customs).
  1 Assistant Collector.
  1 Treasurer's Clerk.
  1 Landing and Tide Surveyor.
  2 Landing Waiters.
  3 Clerks.
  14 Sub-collectors.
  6 Preventive Officers.
The Financial Secretary.

The Surveyor-General (and Chairman of Board of Works).
1 Chainman.
1 Clerk of the Board of Works.
1 Superintendent of Public Buildings.
5 Medical officers (physician of Lunatic Asylum, gaol, and district surgeons).
The Postmaster-General.
2 Clerks.
15 Deputy Postmasters.
6 Way Masters.
6 District Registrars.

Judicial Department.

The Chief Justice.
2 Assistant Judges.
The Attorney-General.
The Solicitor-General.
3 Registrars of Courts.
3 Sheriffs.
1 Crier and Tipstaff.
1 Judge of the Vice-Admiralty Court.
1 Registrar of the Admiralty Court.
1 Marshal.
19 Stipendiary Magistrates.
1 Police Inspector.
60 (about) Constables.
8 Gaolers.
11 Clerks of the Peace.
12 Coroners.

Legislature.

Legislative Council:
Clerk.
Master in Chancery.
Usher of Black Rod.
House of Assembly:
Speaker.
Two Clerks.
Serjeant-at-Arms.
Solicitor.
Librarian.
Besides two house and office keepers and nine messengers and door keepers.

68. Of the above-mentioned offices, those of Financial Secretary, Assistant Collector, and Clerk of the Board of Works were created in the course of the year, and existed only during the latter part of it.

69. The office of Judge of the Vice-Admiralty Court is held by the Chief Justice, and the registrarship and marshalship of that Court are also held in conjunction with other offices, the Chief Clerk of the Colonial Secretary's office being the marshal and also clerk of the Legislative Council. The sub-collectors of customs and preventive officers are in a few instances also either clerks of the peace, deputy postmasters, district registrars, or coroners, and sometimes more than two of these offices are combined in one person. The same remark applies to the stipendiary magistrates and clerks of the peace; but the emoluments attached to these situations are in general very trifling, and even when all united scarcely afford the means of decent maintenance, independently of private resources.

70. The staff of both the Colonial Secretary and the Financial Secretary require, even under present circumstances, the augmentation of one clerk each; and if this were effected I think that the civil establishment generally would be found sufficient for a still larger community and an increased amount of public business. On the other hand I am of opinion that as vacancies occur two of the stipendiary magistrates in St. John's and several others at the out-

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ports may be discontinued without any injurious consequences to the public interests.

71. An ambulatory system of administering justice in cases both of greater and minor importance would, I conceive, be the best suited to the circumstances of this colony and its dependency of the Labrador. The possession by the colonial government of a small screw-steamer would render such a system perfectly feasible, and confer at the same time the means of preventing evasions of revenue laws and protecting the fisheries against foreign encroachments.

Public Works.

72. No public works were undertaken at the expense of the colony during the year 1855. The sum appropriated to the construction of roads and bridges was far from adequate to the purpose, or to the just demands of the inhabitants of the bays and out-settlements. The crippled state of the pecuniary resources of the colony, and not the policy of the government, occasioned this shortcoming in financial legislation; and I am happy to state that a more liberal amount has been appropriated for the service of the present year.

Lighthouse on Cape Race.

73. The erection of a lighthouse on Cape Race, at the expense of the Imperial Government, the cost of building and future maintenance to be reimbursed by tolls from the shipping benefiting by the light, was so far commenced as that the frame work, the principal part of the materials, and the superintendent engineer, arrived in the colony. The season was too far advanced for effective exertion, and the present year will probably approach its close before the work will be completed.

Electric Telegraph between Europe and America.

74. The interesting operations of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company, which have for their ultimate object the connexion of Europe with America by electric telegraph, were pushed with vigour, but experienced a severe check by the ill success which attended the first attempt to submerge the electric cable between Cape Breton and the south coast of Newfoundland. A severe gale of wind arose, accompanied by a heavy sea; the cable broke, and a large portion of it was regarded as lost, but has since been partially recovered. Although the fact properly belongs to the records of the year 1856, I may mention here, that that portion of the work has lately been successfully accomplished; and that there is also every reason to expect that the communication by land wires between the port of St. John's and the cable terminus at Cape Bay across Newfoundland, will be completed before the ensuing winter sets in.

75. It may, I believe, be truly added, that the ocean cable destined to connect Ireland with Newfoundland is in course of manufacture; and an officer commanding a vessel of the United States navy is now engaged in taking accurate soundings of the Atlantic, for the more sure completion of the enterprise.

Government House.

76. In compliance with the instruction, that detailed information should be afforded with respect to the official residence of the Governor, I beg to transmit herewith—

1st. A lithographic drawing exhibiting a view of Government House:
2d. A plan of the house:
3d. A plan of the grounds:
4th. A list of the furniture.

Enclosure 8.

The building is solid, capacious, and completely furnished, and the arrangement of the interior very convenient. Its situation, in proximity to the town and public offices, yet to all intents and purposes in the country, is delightful in summer, but bleak and exposed in winter. During at least half the year it is necessary to keep up from twenty-six to thirty fires, some of them on a large

scale; and the allowance of 200*l.*, which has been of late years granted annually to the Governor in aid of fuel and light, is scarcely sufficient to provide the first of those items alone. I am afraid that the house will be found altogether on too large a scale, when the salary of the Governor shall become reduced, as contemplated by law, to 2,000*l.* a year.

77. I may here conclude the observations which the special returns comprised in the Blue Book, or the leading features of the political and economical condition of the colony, have appeared to me to require in order to make that condition understood.

Retrospective View of the Condition of the Colony.

78. A retrospect of the last ten years is no doubt interesting, but will be found, I fear, in most respects unsatisfactory. The product of the industry of the country does not seem to have increased with the increase of population. Of the amount of that product the export of dried cod forms, I conceive, the fairest possible criterion. By the following statement, viz.:

Exports of Dried Cod.

	Quintals.
1845	1,000,233
1846	879,015
1847	837,973
1848	920,366
1849	1,175,167
1850	1,089,182
1851	1,017,152
1852	972,921
1853	922,718
1854	774,117
1855	1,107,388

It will be seen that the average export for the first five years of the decennial period concluding with 1855 was 980,341 quintals, and for the second five years 956,859 quintals.

The years 1849 and 1855 present the highest, and the years 1847 and 1854 the lowest in the series. That the natural supply varies from year to year there can be little doubt, but it seems clear that it has by no means regularly declined. This fluctuation is attributed by the experienced and observing to various causes; but I apprehend that those causes are all beyond the control or remedy of man. The catch of the year 1855 not only presents no increase of importance over those of 1850, 1851, and 1852, but is very little larger than the catch of 1845. No one, however, I believe, questions the fact that since that year the population has increased from fifteen to twenty per cent.

78. But while the productive industry of the people appears to have been thus stationary, the public debt has certainly augmented, the revenue raised by duties on consumption has been increased, the number soliciting and obtaining relief as paupers is considerably greater, and the amount appropriated to public works and means of communication considerably less. A redeeming feature of the survey is found in the fact, that the means of promoting public religion, viz., the increase of churches and ministers, which depend in so important a degree upon the voluntary contributions of the people, have been materially extended.

79. I acquit the population of the imputation of indolence or inactivity as the cause of the non-increase of the staple export during the period adverted to, for I am strongly of opinion that the shores of Newfoundland which are in the occupation of British fishermen (and it must be remembered that the fisheries of Newfoundland now are and have been for many years past exclusively a shore fishery) are upon the whole what may be termed fully fished, by which I would be understood as meaning that in some places more fish could not be taken from the water, and that in others, with reference to the extent of shore suitable for the process of drying and curing fish, and the establishments of the fishermen, (which may be considered for the most part

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as limited to the heads of bays and coves,) the population was even in the year 1845 sufficiently numerous.

80. I am aware that this view is disputed, and there are no doubt portions of the coast to which it is inapplicable; but, on the other hand, there are settlements where the return of fish does not bear an average proportion to the number of the population; and my opinion is mainly formed upon personal observation during tours of inspection which I was enabled very recently to make in Her Majesty's ships "Argus" and "Pylades," in the course of which I visited four harbours on the coast of the Labrador, three upon that part of the coast of Newfoundland which is in occupation during the fishing season by the French, and eleven of our own settlements upon the eastern and southern coasts of the island.

French Shore.

81. I may add in this place, that I believe the shore enjoyed by the French is also fully occupied. If indeed it were susceptible of producing a greater export, the encouragement which their national policy offers, and which constantly impels their fishermen to trespass upon the fishing grounds reserved to the British, would long since have brought about that result.

Seal Fishery.

82. Several persons whose opinions deserve respect conceive that the fleet despatched to the seal fishery is also too extensive for the return which can fairly be expected from the ice fields within such a distance of our shores as renders the colonial ports convenient for its outfit. This opinion is founded, I think, upon the results of the two last years' voyages, and scarcely seems to be justified by a reference to the records of a more extended period. The export of seal oil for ten successive years to 1855 inclusive has been as follows:

	Tons.
1846	3,065
1847	4,607
1848	6,507
1849	4,190
1850	6,235
1851	6,968
1852	7,333
1853	8,137
1854	5,667
1855	3,760

The average of which for the last five years, viz., 6,353 tons, far exceeds that of the first five years, viz., 4,921 tons.

83. The prosecution of this branch of the fisheries is in some degree hazardous and very exciting, and when the voyage is successful the gains to the merchant, the captain, and the crew are considerable; but the losses are also heavy. It places large sums of ready money in the hands of seafaring men of the operative class, who characteristically squander it, and, being a pursuit which partakes more of the nature of speculation or gambling than of steady industry, does not, I think, tend to ameliorate the physical condition or promote the happiness of the people at large.

General concluding Remarks.

84. The foregoing remarks relate, as will be perceived, to the past and present position of the colony at the close of the year 1855. Causes already explained have prevented me from submitting those remarks until the year 1856 is considerably advanced. Since the date referred to another session of the legislature has taken place, and several laws tending in their operation to improve the relative position of the more numerous classes of the population have been enacted. The public debt has, however, been again augmented, and no fresh sources of revenue have been resorted to. All parties consider it desirable that time should be given to ascertain the effects upon commerce and revenue which the reciprocity treaty with the United States may ere long produce.

85. My connexion with the government of the colony, which has existed only for sixteen months, is, I have reason to suppose, about to terminate. The difficulties which attend the present conduct of its affairs neither originated in nor have been aggravated by the policy adopted during that period, and I do not therefore consider it either expedient, or called for by my duty, that I should speculate as to the best mode of dealing with those difficulties in the future.

86. There are two measures, however, which it seems to me that common justice to the inhabitants at large requires; one, the transfer to the really wealthy city of St. John's of the expenditure on account of its police, streets, and local objects generally, with the maintenance of such poor as properly belong to its community; the other, to compel the lucrative import trade carried on on the coast of Labrador to contribute in its fair proportion to the colonial revenue. Not only do large mercantile houses, whose principals reside in Jersey, and at Poole in Dorsetshire, prosecute an extensive business with the population employed on that coast during the fishing season, by selling and bartering provisions, clothing, spirits, and supplies of other kinds, upon which no duty whatever is paid, but numerous transient traders from the British American provinces and the United States, participate in the same profitable pursuit.

87. This system of course operates unfairly upon those merchants resident in Newfoundland who also enter into the Labrador trade, but whose goods have been subjected to duty at the colonial custom houses; but its more palpable injustice lies in the fact that many thousands of those who maintain the trade are inhabitants of Newfoundland who migrate to the Labrador during the fishing season, returning on the approach of winter to avail themselves of the institutions supported by the colonial revenue, and too frequently to swell the list of paupers who are relieved from the same source.

88. Venturing, in conclusion, a glance at the remoter prospects of the colony, I may record my belief that the two principal events of its history in the year 1855, namely, the establishment of a system of Parliamentary Government, under which the middle and industrial classes, rightly estimating and wisely employing their advantages, may exercise a salutary influence, not only over the character and tendency of local legislation, but also in the general administration of affairs, and the adoption of the "reciprocity treaty," whereby improved markets have already been found for the staple exports, while other good results loom far from indistinctly, are destined gradually to secure to Newfoundland benefits both social and economical such as those which have so remarkably accompanied the progress of other British colonies in self-government and commercial freedom.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. H. DARLING.

The Right Hon.
H. Labouchere, M.P.

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Enclosure 1. in No. 5.

A.

Encl. 1. in No. 5.

ABSTRACT of the TRADE of this COLONY, showing the SHIPS and TONNAGE employed, and the relative VALUE of the EXPORTS, distinguishing Foreign Goods from Goods of British Produce and Manufacture, during the Year ended 31st December 1855.

Countries for which Vessels cleared.	Vessels.		Value of Exports in Pounds Sterling.		
	Number.	Tons.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
			£	£	£
Europe, viz.—					
United Kingdom	103	14,803	462,356	21,570	483,926
Guernsey and Jersey	3	496	7,954	—	7,954
Ionian Islands	1	115	1,579	—	1,579
Malta	2	184	2,562	—	2,562
Spain	60	7,274	88,987	—	88,987
Portugal	99	13,436	164,911	—	164,911
Italy	28	4,103	51,755	—	51,755
Sicily	1	90	1,317	—	1,317
Germany	1	702	—	—	—
Africa, viz.—					
Azores	1	44	325	—	325
Teneriffe	1	174	480	—	480
America, viz.—					
British North American Colonies	458	51,531	74,784	31,397	106,181
British West Indies	72	10,232	90,462	355	90,817
Foreign West Indies, Spain	32	3,921	30,553	—	30,553
Ditto Denmark	2	560	—	—	—
United States	60	9,807	76,480	3,846	80,326
St. Pierre	3	6	9	—	9
Brazils	90	20,035	168,774	12	168,786
	1,017	137,513	1,223,288	57,180	1,280,468

Custom House, St. John's,
7th August 1856.

Encl. 2. in No. 5.

Enclosure 2. in No. 5.

B.

AN ACCOUNT of the NUMBER and TONNAGE of VESSELS cleared Outwards to each Nation in the Year 1855, with the NUMBER of MEN employed in navigating the same; distinguishing British from Foreign Ships.

Countries for which Vessels cleared.		Number.	Tons.	Men.
Europe, viz.—				
United Kingdom	British	98	14,049	798
„ „	Foreign	5	754	58
Guernsey and Jersey	British	3	496	30
Ionian Islands	„	1	115	7
Malta	„	2	184	11
Spain	„	20	2,478	148
„	Foreign	40	4,796	373
Portugal	British	97	13,206	809
„	Foreign	2	230	19
Germany	„	1	702	22
Italy	British	28	4,103	253
Sicily	„	1	90	7
Africa, viz.—				
Teneriffe	Foreign	1	174	6
Azores	„	1	44	5
America, viz.—				
British North American Colonies	British	436	47,482	2,823
„ „ „	Foreign	22	4,049	154
„ West Indies	British	71	10,017	580
„ „	Foreign	1	215	12
Foreign „ Spain	British	26	3,050	195
„ „ „	Foreign	6	871	48
„ „ Denmark	„	2	560	27
United States	British	45	5,714	318
„	Foreign	15	4,093	162
Brazils	British	85	19,000	1,003
„	Foreign	5	1,035	40
St. Pierre	British	3	6	6
		1,017	137 513	7,914

Custom House, St. John's,
7th August 1856.

Enclosure 3. in No. 5.

C.

ABSTRACT of the TRADE of this COLONY, showing the SHIPS and TONNAGE employed, and the relative VALUE of the IMPORTS, distinguishing Foreign Goods from Goods of British Produce and Manufacture, during the Year ended 31st December 1855.

Countries from which Vessels entered.	Vessels.		Value of Imports in Pounds Sterling.		
	Number.	Tons.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
			£	£	£
Europe, viz.—					
United Kingdom	165	29,170	369,507	24,595	394,102
Guernsey and Jersey	8	1,162	8,778	61	8,839
Spain	98	16,203	—	12,328	12,328
Portugal	96	12,989	—	17,019	17,019
Denmark	4	843	—	11,609	11,609
Germany	39	8,500	—	140,748	140,748
Italy	1	239	—	238	238
Africa, viz.—					
Azores	1	44	—	—	—
America, viz.—					
British North American Colonies	510	45,820	166,444	11,527	177,971
British West Indies	28	3,896	14,194	—	14,194
Foreign West Indies	55	6,883	—	159,728	159,728
United States	143	21,639	—	281,421	281,421
St. Pierre	24	496	—	547	547
Brazils	13	2,719	—	903	903
	1,185	150,603	558,923	660,724	1,219,647

Custom House, St. John's,
7th August 1856.

Enclosure 4. in No. 5.

D.

AN ACCOUNT of the NUMBER and TONNAGE of VESSELS entered Inwards from each Nation in the Year 1855, with the NUMBER of MEN employed in navigating the same; distinguishing British from Foreign Ships.

Countries from whence Ships arrived.		Number.	Tons.	Men.
Europe, viz.—				
United Kingdom	British	165	29,170	1,445
Guernsey and Jersey	"	8	1,162	76
Spain	"	72	13,331	638
"	Foreign	26	2,872	237
Portugal	British	91	12,321	732
"	Foreign	5	668	45
Denmark	British	4	843	45
Germany	"	28	5,203	264
"	Foreign	11	3,297	129
Italy	British	1	239	14
Africa, viz.—				
Azores	Foreign	1	44	5
America, viz.—				
British North American Colonies	British	507	45,241	2,968
" " "	Foreign	3	579	34
British West Indies	British	27	3,723	226
" "	Foreign	1	173	6
Foreign West Indies, Spain	British	37	4,613	276
" "	Foreign	18	2,270	167
United States	British	98	12,994	678
"	Foreign	45	8,645	321
Brazils	British	13	2,719	151
St. Pierre	"	22	260	53
"	Foreign	2	236	23
Total		1,185	150,603	8,533

Custom House, St. John's,
7th August 1856.

NEW-FOUNDLAND.

Encl. 5. in No. 5.

Enclosure 5. in No. 5.

E.

REPORT of the COMMITTEE of the NEWFOUNDLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1855.

IN taking a retrospect of the transactions of the Newfoundland Agricultural Society during the past year, our committee rejoice to believe that the efforts made by the society during that period have been followed by a considerable degree of success, and that the extension of and improvements in the agriculture of the colony are steadily adding to the welfare and comfort of a large portion of its inhabitants.

The increased price of grain and bread-stuffs induced the committee to import more extensively than usual barley and oats of the best description, the crops from which have proved so satisfactory as to induce the belief that a greater breadth of land will be set apart for these crops the ensuing season. Your committee would therefore recommend that the society should be prepared to offer to the farmers the same excellent description of seed, particularly barley, the benefit of this crop being now fairly appreciated wherever it has received the degree of cultivation it requires.

The success attending the cultivation of the early seed potatoes imported by the society for the last few years has again manifested itself in the abundant and healthy crops of the past season, a result so satisfactory as to stimulate the society to persevere in its efforts to distribute this valuable seed in every district of the colony, which perhaps is the only means of restoring confidence in the cultivation of this crop, so essential to the comfort of our population.

It is satisfactory to know that the efforts of the society to induce a more extensive cultivation of the turnip crop have been to a considerable extent successful, and your committee have it in their power to report their belief, that, notwithstanding an unfavourable season this crop has been a remunerative one to the farmers.

An annual supply of good turnip seed of the most approved kinds would tend greatly to advance the cultivation of this crop, and be not only the means of enabling many farmers to use the straw of their grain crops as fodder, in place of the present expensive system of feeding all descriptions of stock on the best upland hay, but would further be the means of inducing them to ripen the oat crop, which in too many instances is cut green for the cattle.

Wheat, although still shown to a limited extent, has been successful wherever it has received proper tillage, a result, coupled with the high price of bread and flour, which ought to induce farmers who have land fit for it to give this crop a more extensive trial.

It will be gratifying to the society to know that the improvement of the dairy stock in the colony steadily progresses, and that the attention of many intelligent farmers is steadily directed to it. We rejoice to find that the efforts of the society on this behalf are acknowledged and appreciated, and the society look anxiously for the means of obtaining a further importation of the best description of live stock.

It is to be regretted that the means placed at the disposal of the society during the past year did not allow your committee to carry out more fully the intentions of the society, by importing cattle from Great Britain; but it is satisfactory to know that means have been used to preserve the progeny from the best cattle at present in the colony, and that your committee have been enabled to supply young bulls of the pure Ayrshire breed to the settlements of Placentia, Bonavista, and Ferryland, where these animals have been placed in careful hands for the general good.

Although considerable progress has been made in this department of husbandry, much still remains to be done; and your committee beg to draw the attention of the society to the benefit that would accrue to the colony from a considerable importation of the Durham short-horned breed of cattle and of the Kerry cows; the former description of stock having proved the most remunerative for the dairy and the shambles, and the latter well adapted for the purposes and means of small farmers.

Early in the year a corresponding committee was appointed for the purpose of receiving and diffusing useful information relative to agricultural operations. By this committee were forwarded to the various out harbours copies of the society's agricultural pamphlet, accompanied by a circular calling attention to the supply of seeds ordered by the society from Great Britain, and inviting the parties interested in agricultural pursuits to form branch societies, to co-operate with us in extending the benefits of the society to the remotest settlements; and your committee refer with much satisfaction to the formation of a branch society at Bonavista, as a proof that the above-named committee have not been working in vain.

To the branch society at Bonavista grain and other seeds were forwarded last spring, and there is every reason to believe that much good may be done by this mode of distributing the seeds imported by the society.

The guano imported by the society sold freely, and was approved of as a most convenient and efficient manure. Many small farmers, who are not in the way of importing it themselves, are anxiously looking to the society for a further importation this year. The society think that there are other highly condensed manures which from the tendency to save labour might with advantage be tried.

The committee deem it their duty to impress upon the agriculturists the great value of vetches as a green crop, the importance of which is not duly appreciated.

On the arrival in the colony of Governor Darling, your committee presented a congratulatory address to his Excellency, and his Excellency in a most gracious reply was pleased to accede to the prayer of the address, by becoming patron of the society.

The deep interest taken by his Excellency's hearty co-operation in every matter connected with its welfare your committee would take this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging.

The society's agricultural show was held on the 19th of October, on the ground in front of the Colonial Building, on which occasion, notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, and the necessary postponement upon a former day of the exhibition, the show of cattle, grain, and vegetables testified most satisfactorily to the capabilities of our soil and climate. His Excellency the Governor was present at the exhibition, and after an appropriate address delivered the several prizes to the successful competitors, and afterwards honoured the society with his presence at its annnal dinner.

In awarding prizes at future exhibitions your committee would recommend that, instead of confining them to the small sums of money hitherto given, medals, books on agriculture, and improved agricultural implements should form a proportion of the awards. By this means, besides giving a stimulus to agricultural improvements, much valuable information would be diffused amongst the farmers, and new and improved implements would be placed in the hands of many who otherwise might never have an opportunity of knowing or appreciating their value.

It is gratifying to know that the patronage and support of the government are continued to the society; and the committee take this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging the co-operation of the legislature by liberal grants of money in aid of its funds.

By a judicious appropriation of the funds thus placed at their disposal, and by applying them solely for the public good, in developing the agricultural resources of the colony, the society hopes to merit a continuance of the confidence thus placed in them by the public.

Your committee congratulate the society upon the very large accession of 44 new members during the past year, which must greatly strengthen its hands and extend its usefulness.

Annexed are the treasurer's accounts, which exhibit a balance in favour of the society of 70*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, in addition to which a quantity of grain and other seeds are still on hand, valued at 88*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*

C. F. Bennett,
President.

St. John's, Newfoundland,
9th January 1856.

Enclosure 6. in No. 5.

Encl. 6. in No. 5.

F.

Prizes to be awarded at the Agricultural Show to be held on Tuesday the 21st day of October 1856.

1. For the best sample of wheat of not less than one bushel, from not less than one acre, grown in Newfoundland, 1*l.* 10*s.*, "The Farmer's Guide," or a silver medal, at the option of the competitor.
2. For the best sample of wheat from not less than half an acre grown in Newfoundland, 1*l.* or "The Farmer's Guide," at the option of the competitor.
3. For the best sample of barley from not less than one acre grown in Newfoundland, 1*l.* 10*s.* or "The Farmer's Guide," at the option of the competitor.
4. For the best sample of barley, from not less than half an acre, grown in Newfoundland, 1*l.* or "The Farmer's Guide," at the option of the competitor.
5. For the best sample of oats from not less than two acres, grown in Newfoundland, 1*l.* 10*s.* or "The Farmer's Guide," at the option of the competitor.
6. For the best sample of oats, from not less than one acre, grown in Newfoundland, 1*l.* or "The Farmer's Guide," at the option of the competitor.
7. For the best sample of rye from not less than half an acre, grown in Newfoundland, "The Farmer's Guide."
8. For the best sample of hemp, from not less than 10 perches or 300 square yards, grown in Newfoundland, "The Farmer's Guide."
9. For the best sample of flax from not less than 10 perches or 300 square yards, grown in Newfoundland, "The Farmer's Guide."
10. For the best sample of potatoes, from not less than half an acre, grown in Newfoundland, a silver medal, or "The Farmer's Guide."
11. For the second best sample of potatoes from not less than half an acre, grown in Newfoundland, "The Farmer's Guide."
12. For the best sample of Swedish turnips from not less than half an acre, grown in Newfoundland, "The Farmer's Guide," and 1*l.*

NEW-FOUNDLAND.

13. For the best sample of yellow Aberdeen turnips from not less than half an acre, grown in Newfoundland, "The Farmer's Guide," and 10*s.*

14. For the best sample of any other sort of turnip from not less than half an acre, grown in Newfoundland, "The Farmer's Guide," and 10*s.*

15. For the best sample of mangold wurzel from not less than a quarter of an acre, grown in Newfoundland, a silver medal, or "The Farmer's Guide."

16. For the best sample of carrots from not less than 10 perches or 300 square yards, grown in Newfoundland, 10*s.*

17. For the best sample of parsnips from not less than 10 perches or 300 square yards, grown in Newfoundland, 1*l.*

18. For the best sample of cabbage, not less than 12 heads, from not less than 10 perches or 300 square yards, grown in Newfoundland, 10*s.*

19. For the best sample of salt butter of not less than 40 lbs., Newfoundland produce, a churn, or 1*l.*

20. For the second best sample of salt butter of not less than 40 lbs., Newfoundland produce, a churn, or 15*s.*

21. For the best cheese of not less than 10 lbs., Newfoundland produce, 10*s.*

22. For the second best cheese of not less than 10 lbs., Newfoundland produce, 7*s.* 6*d.*

23. For the best sample of homespun of not less than twenty yards, manufactured in Newfoundland, from the produce of the colony within the present year, 2*l.*

24. For the best sample of concentrated manure of not less than 1 cwt. made in Newfoundland from fish or seal offal, 5*l.*

25. For the best single-horse plough made in Newfoundland, and exhibited by the maker, selling price to be stated, 1*l.* 10*s.*

26. For the best drill plough made in Newfoundland, and exhibited by the maker, selling price to be stated, 1*l.* 10*s.*

27. For the best harrow made in Newfoundland and exhibited by the maker, selling price to be stated, 15*s.*

28. For the best drill grubber made in Newfoundland and exhibited by the maker, selling price to be stated, 1*l.*

29. For the best turnip drill made in Newfoundland, and exhibited by the maker, selling price to be stated, 1*l.*

30. For the best steel digging fork made in Newfoundland, and exhibited by the maker, selling price to be stated, 5*s.*

31. For the best land-roller made in Newfoundland, and exhibited by the maker, selling price to be stated, 10*s.*

32. For the best winnowing machine made in Newfoundland, and exhibited by the maker, selling price to be stated, 2*l.* 10*s.*

33. For the best set of cart harness made in Newfoundland from the manufactures of the colony, and exhibited by the maker, price to be stated, 2*l.* 10*s.*

34. For the best dairy cow pure Ayrshire breed, not under four and not over six years old, bred in Newfoundland, 2*l.*

35. For the best dairy cow pure Ayrshire breed, not under three and not over four years old, bred in Newfoundland, 2*l.*

36. For the best dairy cow pure Ayrshire breed, of any age, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.* 10*s.*

37. For the best heifer pure Ayrshire breed, not under three years old, not calved, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.* 10*s.*

38. For the best heifer pure Ayrshire breed, not under two years old, not calved, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.*

39. For the best heifer calf pure Ayrshire breed, not over one year old, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.*

40. For the best dairy cow of any breed, not pure Ayrshire, not under three and not over six years old, 2*l.*

41. For the best dairy cow of any age, of any breed, not pure Ayrshire, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.* 10*s.*

42. For the best heifer not under three years old, of any breed, not pure Ayrshire, not calved, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.* 10*s.*

43. For the best heifer not under two years old, of any breed, not pure Ayrshire, not calved, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.*

44. For the best heifer calf under one year old, of any breed, not pure Ayrshire, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.*

45. For the best bull of pure Ayrshire or Durham breed, not under three years old, bred in Newfoundland, 2*l.*

46. For the best bull of pure Ayrshire or Durham breed, under two years old, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.*

47. For the best lot of sheep containing six, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.* 10*s.*

48. For the best pig, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.* 10*s.*

49. For the best breeding sow, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.*

50. For the best colt or filly under three years old, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.* 10*s.*

51. For the best colt or filly under two years old, bred in Newfoundland, 1*l.*

52. For the best sample of garden seeds, each not less than half a pound, grown in Newfoundland, 1*l.* 10*s.*

His Excellency the Governor will offer a prize of 10*l.* for the best set of farm accounts, exhibiting a statement of the operations on any farm having not less than four acres under cultivation, from the first day of May next until the first day of May 1857, showing the receipts and expenditure, and the profit and loss upon the operations, and including a detailed statement of any experiments with manures or high cultivation made upon the farm during the period over which the accounts extend; the whole to be a faithful statement of the transactions as they occurred.

REGULATIONS.

Animals for which prizes have been awarded at former exhibitions cannot be put in competition in the same class in which such prizes were taken.

The cost of all manufactures, implements, and manure, to be taken into account in awarding the prizes.

Samples of manures to be sent to the Agricultural Society in time to be tested in the ground the ensuing summer.

Parties intending to compete for the prize of 10*l.* to be given by his Excellency the Governor must forward their accounts to the Secretary of the Agricultural Society not later than the month of July 1857.

By order,

St. John's, Newfoundland,
15th April 1855.

W. F. RENNIE, Secretary.

Enclosure 7. in No. 5.

Encl. 7. in No. 5.

G.

MINUTE for his Excellency the Governor, CHARLES HENRY DARLING, Esquire, of the judicial tribunals and officers at present charged with the administration of justice in Newfoundland.

THE administration of justice in Newfoundland is at the present time vested in tribunals which were created under the provisions of the Imperial Statute, the 5 Geo. 4. c. 67., entitled "An Act for the better Administration of Justice in Newfoundland, and for other purposes;" and by Royal Charter under the authority of that Statute, bearing date the 19th of September 1825.

The highest court in the colony is entitled "The Supreme Court." The Charter directs "that the same shall be composed of and holden by one chief judge and two assistant "judges;" and by the first section of the 5 Geo. 4. c. 67. it is enacted, that "the said court "shall be a court of record, and shall have all civil and criminal jurisdiction whatever "in Newfoundland, and in all lands, islands, and territories dependent upon the govern-"ment thereof, as fully and amply, to all intents and purposes, as His Majesty's Courts "of King's Bench, Common Pleas, Exchequer, and High Court of Chancery in that part "of Great Britain called England have or any of them hath; and the said Supreme "court shall also be a court of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery in and for "Newfoundland, and all places within the government thereof."

The fourth section directs that actions, &c. brought in the Supreme Court for breach of any law relating to the trade or revenue of the British colonies in America shall be tried according to the course of proceeding in similar cases in the Courts of Vice-Admiralty in the said colonies or plantations.

The fifth section confers upon the Supreme Court jurisdiction to grant administration of the effects of intestates, and the probate of will, with other powers in relation to that jurisdiction.

The twenty-third section confers upon the Supreme Court jurisdiction to declare parties insolvent, and to make distribution of their estates.

Thus the Supreme Court has jurisdiction to hear and determine—

1st. Suits in equity.

2d. Actions, informations, and all other proceedings at law.

3d. Revenue causes in certain cases.

4th. Proceedings to obtain letters of administration and probate of wills.

5th. Causes in matters of insolvency.

All issues in fact in civil causes are tried by a special or petit jury, consisting of twelve persons, as in England, in all respects; with this exception, that the three judges preside at every trial.

In criminal cases, by an Act of the legislature of the colony (1 Vict. c. 4.), the criminal law of England in force on the 20th June 1837 is declared to be the law of this island, so far as the same can be applied; and subsequent amendments or alterations of that law are to be in force in this colony in twelve months after the passing thereof in England.

No appeal lies from the decisions of the Supreme Court to any tribunal in the colony; but by the Royal Charter an appeal to the Queen in Council, in matters above the amount or value of 500*l.* sterling, is given.

There are two terms of the Supreme Court in the year, fixed by an Act of the local legislature; the spring and fall terms. The former commences on the 20th of May

and sits for three weeks; and the latter commences on the 20th of November, and sits for three weeks.

The court is invested with a discretionary power to extend each of these terms for any period not exceeding one week, if the judges should deem it advisable to do so.

During these sittings every species of business within the jurisdiction of the court is disposed of, including trials of issues in fact by juries.

In addition to these two terms, the Supreme Court sits upon the first Monday in February, March, April, and July in each year, for the disposal of all matters, not requiring the intervention of a jury, as may be heard and determined by the said court in term-time.

The foregoing statement comprises a general outline of the jurisdiction, powers, and practice of the Supreme Court of this colony.

The seventh section of the 5 Geo. 4. c. 67. empowered the Governor by proclamation to apportion and divide the colony into three several districts; and the Royal Charter directs that there shall be within the colony three circuit courts, to be held in each of the three districts into which the colony may be divided, in pursuance of the said Act of Parliament, and that each of the same shall be holden by one of the judges of the Supreme Court.

These provisions were carried into effect by the creation of three circuit courts, which still continue to exercise their jurisdiction, viz., the Central Circuit Court, which holds its sittings in St. John's, the capital of the island, having jurisdiction over it, and also over the rural district around it; and the Northern and Southern Circuit Courts, which hold their sittings in the principal settlements along the northern and southern coasts of the island.

The jurisdiction of these courts is defined and declared in and by the ninth section of the 5 Geo. 4. c. 67., which enacts "that the said circuit courts shall be respectively "courts of record, and shall within the district in which it may be holden have and "exercise all such and the same jurisdiction, powers, and authority as is hereby vested "in the Supreme Court of Newfoundland throughout the whole of the said colony; saving "and excepting the trying and determining of treasons or misprisions of treason, and "felonies not within the benefit of clergy, and the hearing and determining of any "information, suit, or action for the breach or violation of any Act of Parliament relating "to the trade and revenue of the British colonies in America."

The sixteenth section of the Statute gives an appeal to the Supreme Court "for or in respect of any sum or matter at issue above or exceeding the value of 50*l.* sterling."

There are two terms of the Central Circuit Court in the year fixed by an Act of the local legislature; the spring and fall terms. The former commences on the 20th April, and sits for three weeks; and the latter commences on the 20th October, and sits for three weeks. As I have already stated in reference to the Supreme Court, the judges are authorized to extend each of these terms for a period not exceeding a week, if they deem it advisable to do so; and there are also sittings out of term, similar to those mentioned above respecting the Supreme Court, during the second week of the months of February, March, and July.

The courts are held only once a year in the several settlements in the northern and southern districts, with the exception of Harbour Grace, the principal settlement in the northern district, where the court sits for a few weeks in the spring and fall of each year.

In addition to these tribunals, we have a magistrates' court in St. John's, in which three stipendiary justices of the peace preside daily, to dispose of the criminal business within this district, hearing and determining in a summary manner minor offences, and taking informations, and holding parties to bail in cases of a more serious character.

They are also invested with jurisdiction over all cases respecting servants' wages, and also in other cases arising out of civil contracts to a limited amount; they also hold a court of general sessions of the peace every three months.

There is also in each of fourteen out-port settlements in the colony a stipendiary justice of the peace, and in several other settlements stipendiary constables are stationed for the preservation of the public peace.

The foregoing statement comprises the ordinary tribunals and officers charged with the administration of justice and the execution of the laws in this colony.

Independent of the tribunals to which I have referred, we have a Vice-Admiralty Court in Newfoundland, established under letters patent bearing date the 3d July 1843, and constituting the Chief Justice for the time being judge of that court, with jurisdiction, co-extensive with the High Court of Admiralty in England, over Newfoundland, the banks of Newfoundland, &c. &c., and its dependencies, with the exception of prize causes, which are not included in the letters patent.

The business in this court has not extended beyond the hearing of a few salvage causes in each year since I have had the honour of holding the office of Chief Justice, but I have no ground for intimating that the jurisdiction of this court is not regarded with favour in the colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Francis Brady,
Chief Justice of Newfoundland.

Enclosure 8. in No. 5.

STATEMENT of FURNITURE, &c. at Government House, taken on view the 30th August 1856.

PRINCIPAL FLOOR.

Dining Room.

1 set of dining tables and cover.
4 sideboards.
2 arm chairs.
28 chairs.
3 sets of window curtains.
3 window blinds.
1 fire screen.
Fender, fire irons, and hearth brush.
Carpet, hearthrug, and crumb cloth.
4 gas branches and shades.
1 large lamp and hangings.

The tables and chairs in this room are greatly worn.

Centre Drawing Room.

2 rosewood centre tables.
1 table cover.
2 card tables.
1 sofa table.
1 sofa.
2 couches.
2 arm chairs.
3 sets of window curtains and blinds.
Carpet and hearthrug.
Fender, fire irons, and hearth brush.
1 large mirror.
1 chiffoneer.
1 large lamp.
4 bone chairs.
2 footstools.

The whole of the furniture in this room is in good condition.

Small Drawing Room.

1 centre table.
2 card tables.
18 rosewood chairs.
4 bone chairs.
2 sofas.
3 arm chairs.
1 what not.
1 spider table.
3 sets of curtains and blinds.
1 sofa table.
1 large lamp.
Carpet and hearthrug.
Fender and fire irons.

All in good condition.

Private Secretary's Office.

1 writing table.
1 large press.
2 window curtains and blinds.
2 sets of drawers.
4 chairs.
Carpet, hearthrug, and fender.

All serviceable.

Governor's Room.

1 knee-holed writing table.
2 pillar and claw tables.
1 sofa.
1 sofa table.
1 small writing table.
1 book case.
1 arm chair.
7 imitation rosewood chairs.
Carpet and hearthrug.
Fender and fire irons.
3 sets of curtains and blinds.

Furniture indifferently good.

Council Chamber.

1 council table.
1 small press.
2 sets of curtains and blinds.
1 set containing 5 maps.
Fender and fire irons.
Carpet and hearthrug.
1 Franklin stove and screen.

There are no chairs for this room; when they are required they are brought from the Dining Room.

FRONT HALL AND PASSAGE.

1 dozen straight backed chairs.
1 Canadian stove and funnelling.
1 gas lamp.
Fender and fire irons.
1 umbrella stand.
2 flower stands.
4 tables.
Oilcloth covering on floor.

The tables and oilcloth are much worn.

Secretary's Chamber.

1 camp bed.
1 mattress.
1 pillow.
1 bolster.
1 feather bed.
1 arm chair.
2 dressing tables.
2 common chairs.
1 wardrobe.
1 set of chamber ware.
Fender and fire irons.
1 set of curtains and blinds.

Indifferently good.

Butler's Sleeping Room.

1 small press bed.
1 table.
1 chair.
Carpet, fender, and fire irons.
1 feather bed and pillow.

CHAMBER STORY.

Chamber No. 1.

1 four post bed and curtains.
1 palliasse.
1 wool bed.
1 feather bed.
1 bolster and 2 pillows.

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2 dressing tables.
1 round table.
1 arm chair.
1 towel stand.
1 chest of drawers.
1 couch.
1 set of chamber ware.
4 chairs.
1 dressing glass.
1 stove and fire irons.
1 hearthrug.
1 set of curtains and blinds.

Serviceable.

No. 2.

1 French bed and curtains.
1 hair mattress.
1 wool bed.
1 set of window curtains and blinds.
1 carpet and hearthrug.
Fender and fire irons.
2 dressing tables.
1 dressing glass.
1 wardrobe.
1 chair.
Set of chamber ware.

Serviceable.

No. 3.

2 dressing tables.
2 dressing glasses.
1 set of chamber ware.
1 wardrobe.
1 chest of drawers.
3 chairs.
1 towel stand.
1 set of window curtains and blinds.
Carpet and hearthrug.
Fender and fire irons.

Serviceable.

No. 4.

1 four post bed and curtains.
1 palliasse.
1 wool bed.
2 bolsters and 2 pillows.
1 sofa.
1 card table.
1 chest of drawers.
1 arm chair.
3 common chairs.
1 set of curtains and blinds.
Carpet and rug.
Fender, fire irons, and coal chest.

No. 5.

1 chest of drawers.
1 writing table.
2 dressing tables.
1 commode.
1 arm chair.
3 cane-bottomed chairs.
1 dressing glass.
1 towel stand.
1 set of window curtains and blinds.
1 set of chamber ware.
Carpet and rug.
Fender and fire irons.

No. 6.

1 dressing table and glass.
1 wash stand.
1 deal chest of drawers.
1 deal table.
1 French bed.
1 feather bed and pillows.
2 Windsor chairs.
Carpet and rug.
Fender and fire irons.
1 set of window curtains and blinds
Part of a set of chamber ware.

Serviceable.

No. 7.

1 deal table.
1 arm chair.
1 fire screen.
Carpet and rug.
Set of fire irons.
1 deal press.
1 Windsor chair.
1 set of curtains and blinds.

Almost unserviceable.

No. 8.

2 deal presses.

No. 9.

2 chests of drawers.
2 small beds.
1 dressing table.
1 towel stand.
Carpet and rug.
Fender and fire irons.
2 straw palliasses.
1 hair mattress.
1 feather bed.
1 bolster.

No. 10.

1 French bed and curtains.
1 dressing table and glass.
1 wash stand.
1 towel stand.
Carpet and rug.
Fender and fire irons.
1 straw palliasse.
1 feather bed.
1 pillow.
2 cane-seated chairs.
1 set of window curtains.

Indifferently good.

No. 11.

2 tables.
1 arm chair.
1 cane-bottomed chair.
1 set of curtains and blinds.
1 gas lamp.
Carpet and rug.
Fender and fire irons.

Old and scarcely serviceable.

No. 12.

1 iron bed.
1 chest of drawers.
2 mattresses.
1 wash stand.

1 dressing table.
1 towel horse.
Carpet.
Fender and fire irons.
1 chair.
1 set of window curtains.
1 set of chamber ware.

No. 13.

1 camp bed, iron roof or curtains.
1 hair mattress.
1 feather bed, bolster, and pillows.
1 small press.
1 small table.
1 chest of drawers.
2 dressing tables.
Carpet and rug.
Towel stand.
Fender and fire irons.
Set of chamber ware.

Serviceable.

Bath Room.

1 large slipper bath.
1 French water-closet.
2 commode chairs.

All in good condition.

Maid Servants' Sleeping Room.

3 beds; curtains to one.
3 feather beds.
2 hair mattresses.
1 straw palliasse.
2 sets of old drawers.
1 table and dressing glass.
1 towel horse.

Men Servants' Sleeping Room.

1 French bed and curtains.
1 straw palliasse.
1 hair mattress.
1 dressing table.
Part of set of drawers.
Carpet and rug.
3 Windsor chairs.

Almost quite unserviceable.

Basement Story.

Kitchen.

1 kitchen table.
1 deal table.
1 block.
2 cradle roasting spits.
3 straight spits.
Wafer and beef steak tongs, &c. &c.

Pastry Room.

1 marble table.
1 large mortar.
1 dripping frame.

Housekeeper's Room.

1 sideboard.
2 tables.
3 chairs.
Carpet, rug, fender and fire irons.

Servants' Hall.

1 deal table.
7 Windsor chairs.
2 forms.

Almost unserviceable.

There is a lot of 17 or 18 pairs of blankets and coverlids, but they are so old and worn as to be scarcely serviceable.

(Signed) Patrick Dwight.

St. John's, Newfoundland,
August 30, 1856.

BERMUDA.

No. 6.

No. 6.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor F. Murray to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 174.)

Bermuda, June 18, 1856.
(Received July 14, 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1855.

I am happy to report that the general state and prosperity of the Colony are satisfactory; this is strongly exemplified by the fact (as you will perceive by the tabular returns) that the exports have increased in value, when compared with last year, from 25,563*l.* to 41,420*l.*, and that the imports have increased from 120,389*l.* to 162,556*l.* To this sum must be added imports to the value of 9,332*l.* for the use of Her Majesty's military and naval forces, and that of the convict establishment, making the total imports 171,888*l.* There has also been an increase in the revenue, notwithstanding that the ad valorem percentage duty on imports had been reduced one per cent. Agricultural and commercial enterprise are steadily augmenting, and improved habits of industry are observable among the people generally.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREEMAN MURRAY,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

PART II.

WEST INDIES, MAURITIUS, AND SEYCHELLES.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.

JAMAICA.

No. 7.

No. 7.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir H. Barkly to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 65.)

King's House, May 12, 1856.

Sir, (Received June 16, 1856.)

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book of this colony for the year 1855, and to submit such observations as may serve to elucidate the several statistical returns of which it consists.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The improvement which I have from time to time reported in the position of the island treasury, arising in part from economical management, but mainly from the increased rate of ad valorem duty imposed by 18 Vict. c. 1. on articles not specifically enumerated in the tariff, is fully borne out by the account sent, which is a copy of that for the financial year ending 10th October last, laid before the House of Assembly.

3. The old forms being still adhered to, the transactions are not perhaps so clearly exhibited as is desirable; but I may state generally, without entering into detail, that the current expenditure, exclusive of arrearages, tallied very closely with the estimates of the Executive Committee, amounting to about 200,000*l*., and was, for the first time for many years, met out of the taxes actually raised within the period.

4. The returns of the local revenues and expenses of the twenty-two parishes into which the island is divided do not vary materially from those of last year, but they give no very correct idea of the matter, as the clerks of the vestry who furnish them can only give the amounts of money authorized to be assessed and spent,—the amounts collected and paid over by the collecting constables depending on the efficiency and regularity of those officers.

5. The military expenditure incurred by Great Britain was about 7,000*l*. less than in the preceding year. The reduction would have been double but for the increase in the naval force on the station, which augmented the commissariat charges.

Public Works.

6. Few undertakings which could be classed under this head have been in progress of late years, owing to the disorganization both of the public and parochial finances.

7. The completion of the new Lunatic Asylum at Kingston was last year sanctioned by the Assembly, and will soon, I trust, be accomplished; for though the building, on which large sums have been lavished, will never be well adapted for a tropical climate, nor afford accommodation at all corresponding to its cost, its situation out of the city, and in the midst of extensive grounds, renders it far more eligible than the crowded wards near the public hospital in which the lunatics are at present kept.

8. The new line of turnpike road authorized by 18 Vict. c. 66., from Kingston to the north side of the island, following the valley of the "Wag-Water" (Agua-alta of the Spaniards) from the Stoney Hill Barracks to Annotto Bay, is, I am happy to say, being constructed as rapidly as the nature of the soil and the necessity of studying its ultimate durability permit, and when completed will be the most useful public work executed in Jamaica for many years past. The necessity for a second carriage communication across the island has again been demonstrated by another landslip, which has for some weeks past rendered the "Bog-Walk," the narrow gorge to the northward of this town through which the only road of the sort runs, impassable for any vehicles save those light enough to be carried over by men.

9. Complaints are made by the press of the condition of the roads generally, resulting from their having been so long neglected two or three years ago; but as I travel about more than most people, I can, from observation, affirm that considerable improvement is being by degrees effected under the present Highway Act.

10. No steps have yet been taken by the Jamaica Railway Company to extend their line to Old Harbour under the powers granted by the Legislature, but the manager has just gone home in the hope that, now peace is concluded, the necessary capital will be obtainable not only for that section, but to continue a tramway thence through Vere and Clarendon to the foot of the Manchester Hills.

Legislation.

11. A portion of that of two sessions is as usual comprised within the year, the Legislature generally meeting about October in the one year and continuing to sit until March or April.

12. The Acts of 18th Victoria passed in the early part of 1855 were very numerous, and I may recapitulate those of permanent interest—Chapter 22, to substitute in certain cases service in agricultural labour, on certain conditions, for part of the sentences of prisoners in the General Penitentiary, the satisfactory working of which has been already reported; Chapter 25, to amend the laws relating to the collection of taxes, which will in time correct the evils elsewhere alluded to; Chapter 37, for the more efficient audit of the public and parochial accounts; and Chapter 59, to exempt mines and minerals from impost in respect of the rights of the Crown for a limited number of years, which, in conjunction with other Acts to facilitate the granting of mining leases, and to amend the law relative to the regulation of mining companies and partnerships, has had the desired effect of encouraging the investment of capital in such undertakings.

13. The only Act of any importance passed prior to Christmas in the session of 1855–6 was that "further to reduce the salaries of the clergy, and to pro- "vide for the payment of such reduced salaries for a term of fourteen years." —19 Vict. c. 6.

Civil Establishment.

14. The only change of importance was occasioned by the death of Mr. O'Reilly, who has been succeeded in the Attorney Generalship by Mr. Heslop, a member of Assembly, who accepted it, under the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, on a political tenure.

15. In the Customs department four tide-waiters were appointed, under authority of 18 Vict. c. 1., and a few other moves occurred from deaths or other causes, which led to promotions from below. The young men introduced into the service were the most respectable and best educated I could find. The new office of Inspector of Invoices, created by the same Act, I conferred on a gentleman who had formerly been a dry-goods merchant in Kingston, as it required special knowledge and aptitude for the duty.

16. The ecclesiastical establishment underwent some alterations. Three rectories fell vacant during the year,—two by death, one through the exchange of the incumbent to a curacy in Kingston. They were filled up by curates of long standing. Eight curacies on the island establishment, including those thus vacated, had to be supplied, either by clergymen returning from leave of absence, or by those heretofore paid by the Bishop through the treasury grant or the aid of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Two additional curates were admitted into the diocese and placed on his Lordship's stipendiary list.

17. Only six clergymen were absent from the island at any time during the year, and of these two subsequently retired from the colonial church, and three resumed their duties, so that a few weeks since one curate only of the entire establishment was away on leave.

Population.

18. The treasury was not in a position last session to justify my urging the fresh census, which I admitted, when sending home the last Blue Book, to be so desirable, but I trust it has only been deferred till the next.

JAMAICA.

19. Happily no epidemic marked the course of the year 1855, and as the large body of labourers who had gone to work on the Panama Railway, and elsewhere on the Spanish main, in most instances returned, it may be reasonably inferred that the number of inhabitants increased during its currency.

20. Immigration from every quarter is entirely at a stand-still.

Education.

21. The returns sent in show, I am happy to say, an increase of between two and three thousand scholars, the aggregate for 1854 having been 17,536; for 1855, 19,879. This increase would have been at least a thousand larger, but for the neglect of parties in charge of schools to fill up the forms transmitted,—Woolmer's free school at Kingston, where there are about seven hundred scholars, and the Roman Catholic schools, which have between two and three hundred, alone making that reduction from last year, when they were duly included.

22. The increase was pretty evenly distributed over the schools of the several religious denominations,—the Church of England claiming nearly one thousand of it; the Moravians almost seven hundred; the Wesleyans three hundred; the Baptists upwards of eight hundred; and the London Missionaries two hundred.

23. Since all but the two last accept State aid, their extended operations would appear attributable to the restoration of a grant for educational purposes last spring, whilst that step, so far from having injured the schools on the voluntary principle, as predicted by its opponents, really seems to have done them good,—in all probability, by exciting the emulation of the masters, and setting an example to the parents of dissenting children.

24. It is a strange coincidence, at any rate, that when the grant was withdrawn by the Assembly in 1853, the schools of the Baptists and Independents suffered as I pointed out at the time, even more than those of the State-assisted churches, and that when it was renewed again in 1855 they should simultaneously have recovered their numbers.

25. As many of those who abstain from participation in the grant refuse to send in returns of their scholars, it is probable that Mr. Richard Hill's estimate, in his last Half-yearly Report, of there being 24,000 children who receive instruction at the present moment, is not far from the mark; and as there seems no reason either to question his calculation, based on the ages in the last census, of there being 64,000 between 5 and 15, the fearful inadequacy of existing arrangements may be inferred.

26. It is contended, indeed, by an influential party that the result is attributable, not to the want of opportunities for education, but to the indifference of the negroes to the education of their offspring, even gratuitously, and their insuperable repugnance to contribute the smallest sum for the purpose.

27. There is, I am sorry to say, too much truth in the latter charge; but in regard to the former, I should not, from my own observation, say that it was one whit more applicable to the peasantry of Jamaica than to that of Great Britain; and until far more ample and convenient means of instruction than now exist have been placed within their reach, I certainly think it would be both unfair and impolitic to make education compulsory, as suggested conscientiously by some, but with no great sincerity, I fear, by others.

Crime.

28. The returns from the several gaols continue to testify to the comfortable condition and peaceable disposition of the lower orders. The greatest number of prisoners in confinement at any one time during 1855 was 927, against 908 in 1854; but, on the other hand, the number on 31st December of the latter year was reduced to 583, instead of to 700.

Enclosure 1.

29. With a view of tracing this important subject further, I enclose, as last year, returns from the Inspector of Prisons regarding the General Penitentiary, which is under his immediate superintendence.

30. The commitments to that institution, which are for the more serious class of offences, were 397, against 483 in the corresponding period of the preceding year, the proportion of re-convictions rising, however, from under a sixth to over a fifth.

31. The "tabular view" of convictions for each offence shows a remarkable uniformity with the previous classification sent, the alterations in all cases being for the better; and had I forwarded it directly after the close of the year, I should certainly have taken occasion to congratulate the colony on the extreme rarity of capital crimes, no execution, moreover, having taken place during the period. About two months ago, however, one of those sudden and unaccountable outbursts of evil passion against which no human institutions are proof, manifested itself, and, without the slightest apparent cause or connexion, half a dozen dreadful murders or homicides occurred almost simultaneously in different parts of the island.

32. In reference to minor offences, I enclose the usual synopsis of cases disposed of by the stipendiary magistrates for the last six months of 1855, exhibiting also an improvement over those for the corresponding period of 1854. There was, however, during a part of the time one magistrate less employed. Enclosure 2.

Coins and Exchanges.

33. Resuming the consideration of the returns in the order in which they are bound up, I proceed next to glance at the monetary condition of the colony, as evidenced by the amount of paper currency in circulation, and am glad to be able to state that, as predicted in my last year's Despatch with the Blue Book, the withdrawal, by means of the guaranteed loan, of the irredeemable notes put forth by the island treasury, induced the banks so to increase their issue of notes payable in specie on demand, that that of the Colonial Bank, which was only 43,031*l.* on 31st December 1854, stood on 31st December 1855 at 89,248*l.*, whilst that of the Bank of Jamaica rose from 25,456*l.* to 41,408*l.*

34. In short, notwithstanding the fears expressed as to the effect of calling in and destroying the island notes, and leaving the circulation to the discretion of the banks, the aggregate amount of paper money is larger by several thousand pounds than it was prior to the disturbance of public credit in 1853, as shown by the following statement:—

	1851.	1852.	1853.	1855.
Island Notes -	£52,337	£52,337	£52,337	£ 9,255
Colonial Bank -	41,110	35,805	37,417	89,248
Jamaica Bank -	42,336	37,599	32,437	41,408
	£135,783	£125,741	£122,191	£139,911

The result is, I trust, attributable to a slight revival in the trade of the colony.

Imports and Exports.

35. Such a revival is distinctly traceable in these returns; the comparison for the last four years standing as under, after correction of an error into which I was last year betrayed by the total omission from the Custom House tables —which were very carelessly prepared by the then Comptroller of Navigation Laws—of the value of British goods imported:—

	Imports.	Exports.
1852 - - - -	£837,894	£927,377
1853 - - -	864,094	837,276
1854 - - - -	926,166	932,316
1855 - - -	899,508	1,003,325

And it must be borne in mind, moreover, that both the imports and exports of the last year would have appeared larger but for their being those of 360 days only, the returns being for the first time made up, pursuant to instructions from home, to the 31st December, instead of, as heretofore, to the 5th January following,—five days at the busiest season being thus short-reckoned on the occasion of the change.

36. Taking the imports, however, as stated, the proportional value from each country with which Jamaica trades varied but little from the previous year; though there was some reduction both as regards the products of Great Britain and the United States, and some increase in those from the North American colonies and from foreign countries.

JAMAICA.

37. The value, on the contrary, of produce exported to the two former was considerably larger,—in the case of the United States in particular, rising from 71,322*l.* in 1854 to 118,253*l.* in 1855, the position of the sugar market in New York attracting towards the close of the year large shipments, and thus accelerating that extension of commercial intercourse which, now that protecting duties in the home market are abolished, must naturally arise.

38. Strange to say, the value of direct exports from Jamaica to the British colonies in North America is trifling in the extreme, though the import trade almost rivals that from the United States in extent.

39. Foreign states appear at first sight to have taken less than in the previous year, but, from what the collector of customs tells me, this is not really the case, the sum of 35,856*l.* set down, it would seem erroneously, under the item "Elsewhere," below the general heading "British Colonies," consisting entirely of the value of rum and pimento shipped direct to Bremen, it is not difficult to conceive owing to the blockade of Russian ports in the Baltic.

40. I am afraid that the substitution this year of the values declared by the merchants for those calculated by the officers of Customs has not tended to increased correctness, so far as the valuation of exports is concerned; and as Sir William Molesworth's Circular Despatch of 22nd September last seems to leave the mode of valuing optional, I shall suggest a recurrence to the old practice, though that was loose enough.

41. For example, in 1854 the quantity of sugar shipped was calculated by the comptroller, upon the number of hogsheads, at 440,911 cwt., and its value at 430,117*l.*, or very nearly 20*s.* per cwt. The crop of 1855 was notoriously smaller, but the price as indubitably higher; and yet the returns for the present Blue Book,—the weights and values being, I am assured, summed up from the merchants' declarations,—show 514,651 cwt. shipped at a valuation of 364,687*l.* only, or 14*s.* 2*d.* per cwt.

42. It is clear that in the former year the weight was under-estimated and the price over-estimated; whilst in 1855, presuming the shipping weight, as is probable, to have been correctly given, and allowing 10 per cent. for drainage on the voyage home, the valuation must be at least 100,000*l.* under the mark.

43. I observe also, on looking at these returns, that the more detailed statements as to shipping required by the circular above referred to are not included, but I have called on the principal officers of Customs to rectify the omission if the records of their department enable them to do so, and the forms can in that event be transmitted afterwards, which seems preferable to detaining the whole Blue Book. Those now sent show a diminution of no less than 10,000 tons entered inwards, but an augmentation of 3,000 tons entered outwards.

Agriculture.

44. This important head of the Blue Book is, as usual, a blank, owing to the absence of all statistical information as to the growing crops; but I am sorry to say the general opinion is, in regard to that now in course of manufacture, that from the continued wet weather it will turn out less even than that of last year. To the 5th April nevertheless the shipments were some 3,000 hogsheads in excess. For the ensuing year, "the planter's year," as it is often ironically styled, the rains are favourable, and there can be little doubt that the extraordinary rise in the value of sugar last autumn led to a larger area than usual being planted in canes.

45. The position of the planters, indeed, is a very puzzling one,—for instead of the opening of the home market to the sugars of all countries on equal terms having, as anticipated, produced such steadiness of price as would have at once enabled them to determine whether to continue their competition or abandon it as fruitless, it has been followed by fluctuations unprecedented for at least forty years before, and their business is thus rendered little better than gambling.

46. Sugars which in the autumn of 1854, after the equalization of duty, would not net to the shipper more than 7*l.* to 8*l.* per hogshead, at the same period of 1855 were sold at 35*l.* to 40*l.* per hogshead, a rise of 500 per cent., which was followed as suddenly by a fall to 10*l.* or 12*l.* per hogshead, from which the price is again recovering.

47. Without venturing to inquire how far these extraordinary variations arose from natural causes, or were promoted by recent fiscal legislations, as maintained

out here, or, on the other hand, whether it would not have been wiser ten years since to have smoothed the inevitable difficulties of the transition from slavery to free labour in the British West Indies, even at the temporary sacrifice of a postponement of cheap sugar from slave colonies for a brief period longer, there can be no question that this state of things very much enhances the importance of keeping up their cultivation such as it now is, and this can only be done by encouraging immigration, the tendency of the native population being to retire more and more every day from the cultivation of the staples.

48. I have so frequently expressed my views on this subject, and this present Report has already grown to such a length, that I will not enter upon it again now; but I cannot refrain from forwarding, as an enclosure to this Despatch, the last Half-yearly Report of Mr. Ewart, which was too late to go with those of the other stipendiary magistrates, because I concur very much in his description of the results of emancipation in Jamaica, and share his opinion likewise as to the expediency and practicability of inducing the free coloured people of the United States to settle in the island, and by their skill and intelligence supply a remedy for evils which—as this gentleman is himself of the mixed race—he can hardly be supposed to have exaggerated.

Enclosure 3.

49. In the United States I do not imagine much difficulty need be anticipated with regard to such a scheme. The State Legislatures of Baltimore, Maryland, and other territories lying intermediate between slavery and freedom, have passed Acts obliging the free blacks to remove within a certain period, and I am assured on good authority that the colonization societies established in furtherance of this object would be prepared, if half only of the cost of conveyance were borne by Jamaica, to exert all their influence to direct the stream of immigration hitherward instead of to Liberia, to which the passage is so expensive as to limit their operations.

50. With regard to the free blacks themselves a slight impetus only needs to be given. I have now before me "the Proceedings of the National Emigration "Convention of Coloured People held at Cleveland, Ohio, on the 24th, 25th, and "26th August 1854," at which the commissioners of the different states determined, that as Canada would probably sooner or later be merged in the Union, it was not advisable for them to settle permanently there, and that the British West Indies, Central and South America, should be "the countries of their choice;" in the former especially "all the inhabitants enjoying equality of "political privileges, restrictions on account of colour being entirely unknown."

51. It would seem to need, therefore, but the offer of a free passage, and of grants of land in this colony, to create a very extensive immigration; and though I have been hitherto unsuccessful in persuading a majority of the Legislature either to apply a portion of the immigration loan to the former purpose, or to facilitate the resumption of lands on which quitrents have remained long unpaid,—with a view to the latter I still hope that I may be able to reconcile the conflicting views entertained, and that next session will not pass over without proper steps being taken.

52. To conclude:—Last year I could sum up my Report with no greater amount of encouragement than an assurance that the position of the colony had grown no worse, and that its prospects were by no means desperate; this year I am fairly entitled to found on the facts and figures I have passed in review much more sanguine inferences; and though difficulties and drawbacks still remain to be encountered, I feel far more confident of the ultimate restoration of prosperity than I ever did before.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY BARKLY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1. in No. 7.

GENERAL PENITENTIARY.

Year ending 30th September 1854.	£	s.	d.	Year ending 30th September 1855.	£	s.	d.
Cost of dieting 421 prisoners in 1854	2,354	14	11	Cost of dieting 419 prisoners in 1855	2,663	6	3
Average daily number of prisoners in custody	421.			Average daily number of prisoners in custody	419.		
Average cost of dieting one prisoner per diem	0	0	3¾	Average cost of dieting one prisoner per diem	0	0	4
Daily average number of officers, 52.				Daily average number of officers, 55.			
Do. do. cost of superintendence	0	0	5¼	Do. do. cost of superintendence	0	0	5¾
Cost of miscellaneous charges, such as clothing, bedding, medicine, implements of labour, and other heads of expenditure	0	0	3¾	Cost of miscellaneous charges, such as clothing, bedding, medicine, implements of labour, and other heads of expenditure	0	0	3¾
Total cost per diem	£0	1	0¾	Total cost per diem	£0	1	1½

TABLE of CONVICTIONS to the GENERAL PENITENTIARY.

Year ending 30th September 1854.	Prisoners.	Year ending 30th September 1855.	Prisoners.
Convicted for the first time	368	Convicted for the first time	310
Re-convictions	65	Re-convictions	87
Total	433	Total	397

Statistical Table, General Penitentiary.

Year ending September 30, 1855.

Number in Custody, 356.

AGES.		COLOUR.		CRIMES.	
Under 17 years	10			Horse stealing	8
„ 25 „	23			Sheep stealing	3
From 25 to 30 years	189	Black	315	Forgery	2
„ 30 to 40 „	106	Coloured	28	Perjury	22
Above 40 years	28	White	13	Burglary	226
				Larceny	11
Total	356	Total	356	False pretences	3
				Embezzlement	5
State of Education.		**Country.**		Highway robbery	1
				Arson	6
Could read on admission	103			Manslaughter	5
Are learning	51	Natives	295	Murder	4
Cannot read	202	Not natives	56	Cutting and wounding	18
Total	356	Total	356	Cutting and wounding with intent	2
				Stabbing and wounding	1
				Cutting and maiming	3
				Assault	3
				Assault with intent	7
				Rape	4
				Sodomy	1
				Against nature	6
				Attempt to poison	1
				Killing cattle	3
				Killing sheep	3
				Killing a pony	1
				Killing a mule	1
				Killing an ass	2
				Wounding cattle	1
				Wounding and maiming mules	2
				Malicious mischief	1
				Total	356
Under sentence of transportation	16			Under sentence of imprisonment	340

ADMITTED.		DISCHARGED.	
Number in custody 30th September 1854, as per last return	371	Discharged during the year	235
Received from Courts of Assize during the year	65	Released as agricultural labourers under "Penal Servitude Act"	145
„ „ Quarter Sessions during the year	332	Pardoned by the Governor	26
		Died during the year	6
		Number in custody to date	356
Total	768	Total	768

Number of re-convictions during the year - 87

TABULAR VIEW of the Number of PRISONERS received into the GENERAL PENITENTIARY from COURTS of ASSIZE and QUARTER SESSIONS, from 1st October 1854 to 30th September 1855.

COURTS.	1 Horse Stealing.	2 Cattle Stealing.	3 Forgery.	4 Perjury.	5 Burglary.	6 Larceny.	7 False Pretences.	8 Receiving Stolen Goods.	9 Feloniously Receiving.	10 Highway Robbery.	11 Embezzlement.	12 Arson.	13 Murder.	14 Manslaughter.	15 Cutting and Wounding.	16 Cutting and Wounding with Intent.	17 Stabbing and Wounding.	18 Cutting and Maiming.	19 Conspiracy.	20 Assault.	21 Assault with Intent.	22 Rape.	23 Against Nature.	24 Soliciting to Kill.	25 Attempting Poison.	26 Killing Cattle.	27 Killing Sheep.	28 Killing a Pony.	29 Killing a Mule.	30 Killing an Ass.	31 Wounding Cattle.	32 Wounding and Maiming Mules.	33 Rogue and Vagabond.	34 Malicious Mischief.	Total.
MIDDLESEX.																																		
Assize Courts	—	—	1	1	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	23
St. Catherine Quarter Sessions	—	—	—	—	—	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
St. Thos. ye Vale „ „	1	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Clarendon „ „	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	22
Vere „ „	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Manchester „ „	—	—	—	—	4	18	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
St. Mary „ „	—	—	—	—	1	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	14
St. Ann „ „	—	—	—	—	1	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
Total	1	—	1	1	8	95	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	2	1	1	4	—	2	3	2	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	133
SURREY.																																		
Assize Courts	—	—	2	1	1	8	—	—	2	—	—	5	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
Kingston Quarter Sessions	—	—	—	—	1	45	3	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	59
Port Royal „ „	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
St. Andrew „ „	2	—	—	—	2	15	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26
St. Thos. ye East „ „	1	—	—	—	2	16	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
St. David „ „	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Portland „ „	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
St. George „ „	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6
Metcalfe „ „	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Total	3	—	2	1	6	96	6	4	4	—	4	5	—	1	14	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	158
CORNWALL.																																		
Assize Courts	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	13
St. Elizabeth Quarter Sessions	—	—	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	35
Hanover „ „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Westmoreland „ „	2	1	—	—	1	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	28
Trelawny „ „	—	—	—	—	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
St. James „ „	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13
Total	2	1	—	—	4	67	—	1	1	—	1	1	1	1	6	—	—	1	1	1	4	—	1	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	104
CAYMANAS.																																		
Assize Court	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
GRAND TOTAL	6	1	3	2	18	258	7	6	5	1	5	6	1	6	22	1	1	5	1	3	9	4	6	1	1	4	4	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	397

Enclosure 2. in No. 7.

SYNOPSIS of the Quarterly Returns of CRIME received from Stipendiary Magistrates, for the Three Months ended 30th September 1855.

Names of Districts.	Contempt of Court.	Trespass.		Petty Thefts.	Assaults.	Assaults upon Women and Children.	Assaults on Police and other Officers.	Cruelty to Animals.	Breach of the Peace.	Breach of Contract.	Offences against														Total Number of Convictions.	Names of Stipendiary Magistrates.
		Furtive.	Common and Malicious.								Towns and Communities Act.	Masters and Servants Act.	Spirit Licence Act.	Highway Act.	Vagrancy Act.	Merchant Seamen's Acts.		Tradesmen's Act.	Pound Law.	Hawkers and Pedlars Act.	Fisheries Act.	Penal Servitude Act.	Public Markets Act.		
																British.	Jamaica.								
Portland	–	–	1	4	4	–	–	–	–	–	8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	17	Lake, Charles.
St. David	–	2	1	–	5	–	–	–	2	–	4	1	1	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	18	Fyfe, Alexander Gordon.
Port Royal	–	–	–	–	9	–	–	–	4	–	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	16	Kent, Henry.
St. Andrew	–	4	1	4	31	–	–	–	8	2	31	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	–	89	Ewart, David.
Kingston	–	–	1	20	57	–	–	–	–	–	124	3	–	–	13	–	6	2	–	–	–	–	–	226	Willis, George.
St. Catherine	–	–	–	5	8	1	–	–	–	–	38	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	52	Hill, The Hon. Richard.
St. John	–	–	–	1	3	1	–	–	–	–	8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	13	Hill, The Hon. Richard.
St. Dorothy	–	1	2	3	2	–	–	–	–	–	10	1	3	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	23	Bell, William Anthony.
St. Thomas in ye Vale	–	–	–	9	12	–	–	–	–	–	17	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	43	Jackson, Thomas Witter.
St. Mary	–	–	4	12	14	–	–	–	3	3	13	2	–	–	3	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	–	56	Walsh, Henry.
St. Ann	–	6	16	1	21	–	6	1	3	–	21	12	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	2	–	90	Dillon, Theobald Augustus.
Clarendon	–	2	3	2	11	–	–	–	–	–	26	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	44	Crewe, Henry.
Manchester	–	9	7	5	22	–	–	–	–	–	35	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	78	Laidlaw, Henry.
Trelawny	1	15	8	18	36	8	2	–	–	–	40	10	–	8	1	–	2	1	3	1	–	–	2	156	Emery, Robert. Kelly, Daniel Winder.
St. James	–	16	4	5	46	–	–	–	–	–	32	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	103	Chamberlaine, Richard.
	1	55	48	89	281	10	8	1	20	5	410	35	4	10	17	–	8	3	6	2	1	8	2	1,024	

King's House, 9th April 1856.

HUGH W. AUSTIN, Governor's Secretary.

SYNOPSIS of the Quarterly Returns of CRIME received from Stipendiary Magistrates, for the Three Months ended 31st December 1855.

Names of Districts.	Petty Thefts.	Trespass.		Assaults on Police and other Officers.	Assaults on Women and Children.	Assaults.	Cruelty to Animals.	Breach of Peace.	Breach of Contract.	Dog Stealing.	Offences against									Total Number of Convictions.	Names of Stipendiary Magistrates.
		Furtive.	Common and Malicious.								Pound Law.	Highway Act.	Fisheries Act.	Petty Debt Act.	Towns and Communities Act.	Vagrancy Law.	Merchant Seamen's Act.	Masters and Servants Act.	Tradesmen's and Hawkers and Pedlars Acts.		
Portland	5	–	6	–	–	11	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	17	–	–	–	–	39	Lake, Charles.
St. David	–	3	–	–	–	4	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	11	2	–	–	–	–	22	Fyfe, Alexander Gordon.
Port Royal	1	–	–	–	–	12	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	9	–	–	–	–	22	Kent, Henry.
St. Andrew	5	7	4	1	–	17	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	28	1	–	–	–	65	Ewart, David.
Kingston	39	–	1	–	–	49	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	106	4	7	4	–	212	Willis, George.
St. Catherine	10	–	1	–	2	15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	45	–	–	–	–	73	Hill, The Hon. Richard.
St. John	–	–	–	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	7	
St. Dorothy	1	1	1	–	–	5	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	16	Bell, William Anthony.
St. Thomas in ye Vale	3	–	2	1	–	16	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	14	–	–	1	1	38	Jackson, Thomas Witter.
St. Mary	5	–	2	–	–	14	1	1	1	–	3	–	1	–	13	–	–	–	–	41	Walsh, Henry.
St. Ann	4	7	22	4	–	30	–	6	–	–	–	2	–	–	26	1	–	3	–	105	Dillon, Theobald Augustus.
Clarendon	1	3	8	–	–	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	28	–	–	–	–	50	Crewe, Henry.
Manchester	6	4	15	–	–	21	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	16	–	–	–	–	62	Laidlaw, Henry.
Trelawny	9	13	3	4	3	42	2	–	–	–	1	9	–	–	40	–	–	9	2	137	Emery, Robert. Kelly, Daniel Winder.
St. James	4	12	6	–	–	23	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	41	–	–	–	–	86	Chamberlaine, Richard.
	93	50	71	10	5	275	7	7	2	1	6	11	1	11	392	6	7	17	3	975	

King's House, 9th April 1856.

HUGH W. AUSTIN, Governor's Secretary.

Enclosure 3. in No. 7. JAMAICA.

HALF-YEARLY REPORT from D. EWART, Esq., Stipendiary Magistrate, to HUGH W. AUSTIN, Esq., Governor's Secretary.

SIR, St. Andrew, March 15, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit my Report for the last half year.

From the period of emancipation until now, two parties have watched, with unabated interest, the progress of events in the West Indies: one represented all that was hopeful for the black race; the other looked with sad forebodings to the prospects of the proprietary; and I venture to say that no period in the history of any people has been examined with more interest and deeper solicitude. Missionary zeal collected from time to time the animating results which freedom exhibited, and sent forth the most satisfactory representations of the order, morality, and advancing industry of the people; Blue Book upon Blue Book, filled from year to year with the current testimony of functionaries of all grades, attested the interest with which Parliament exacted the fullest information upon West Indian affairs. Distinguished men, imbued with those feelings of active benevolence which maintained the anti-slavery spirit in all its efforts for freedom, became tropical tourists, and examined for themselves the progress of a race in whose welfare they were so deeply interested. Meanwhile the proprietary, who saw nothing but ruin looming in the distance, were equally sedulous in promulgating their opinions. The controversies which arose on this subject are consequently remarkable for the dissimilar views propounded by each party. As a specimen of these, we have on the one hand the excellent Mr. Gurney, who thus expatiates on the prosperity which he believed was to be the result of freedom:—"All parties ought to unite in promoting the coming of the "day (as I believe not far distant, for we already see the dawn of it) when the merchant-"men which frequent the harbours of Jamaica shall be multiplied; when the staple "productions of sugar and coffee shall more than recover their former amount; when "abundance of free-grown cotton shall be added to the list; when vegetable provisions "shall be poured forth at a cheap rate from the mountains into the towns; when flocks "of sheep, as well as yet larger heads of oxen and kine, shall cover the pastures; when, "in fact, one of the most favoured and delightful spots on the globe shall be distinguished "by a corresponding superiority in the wealth and substantial comfort of its inhabitants." This glowing representation was welcomed in all parts of England, but it was met shortly after by the following gloomy picture from the pen of the present Sir Archibald Alison:—"In short, the agricultural produce of the island (Jamaica) is totally disappear-"ing: the negroes, in the great majority of instances, either will not work at all for any "wages, or are so extravagant in their demands for wages, and so irregular and incon-"stant in their habits, as to render it altogether impossible to continue the cultivation "of sugar and coffee with any prospect of profit. Unless some other race can be intro-"duced, who will supply their places by free labour, and they peaceably retire to the "mountains in the interior, there to squat and lead a life of savage indolence and "penury, nothing is more certain than that before a long period has elapsed the culti-"vation of sugar in the West Indies will have entirely ceased, and nine-tenths of the "estates will irrevocably revert to a state of nature."

Now, although we have not realised the abundant prosperity depicted by Mr. Gurney, we have the good fortune to know that we have not witnessed the barbarous results so confidently detailed in the gloomy prognostications of Sir Archibald. But these specimens of conflicting opinions, so characteristic of the discussions upon West Indian affairs, which have for years distracted public attention, cannot now mislead the most humble inquirer into the political, social, and moral condition of Jamaica. We have before us, in facts and figures, a declining agriculture, commercial embarrassments, and a people rich in physical abundance, but steeped in ignorance and moral debasement.

The material prosperity in the condition of the working classes has, however, fallen short of the result which Mr. Gurney and his friends anticipated. That benevolent gentleman has aptly described the elements of that prosperity on which he conceived the well-being of the working classes should depend. Prosperity, he observes, is a word of large meaning,—it embraces the intellectual, moral, and spiritual, as well as the temporal welfare of the people, and before prosperity can be predicated of the working classes it must be seen that all these elements are manifested in their condition.

Now, tried by these tests, the conditions of a sound prosperity are far from being yet fulfilled: we have the physical, but none of the moral and industrial elements.

This unsatisfactory state of society has been discussed by Dr. Brewster in his address, in 1853, to the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

It is, he observes, a problem yet to be solved, to determine what will be the state of society when man's physical powers are highly exalted, and his physical condition highly ameliorated, without any corresponding change in his moral habits and position. There is much reason to fear that every great advance in material civilization requires some moral and compensating antagonism; but however this must be, the very indeterminate character of the problem is a warning to the rulers of nations to prepare for the contingency by a system of national instruction.

The question of education is still prominently before the public. "The case has reduced itself to the simplest form." Education is necessary, and those who have

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the power to provide for its diffusion are no doubt alive to their responsibility But education, important as it is, is by no means more important, if indeed so much so, as the moral and industrial regeneration of the adult masses, who, before any good result can be expected from the attempt to diffuse education amongst their children, must themselves be brought under the influence of such incitements as might stimulate them to industry, self-restraint, and civil respectability.

From whence such a stimulus could be derived, or, rather, from what quarter a population could be imported, possessing the industrial virtues required to stimulate our working classes, has engaged the attention of an able writer in the "Westminster Review." In an article entitled "British Philanthropy and Jamaica Distress," he remarks:—"Yet "that there is a want of labour in this magnificent island, to force its rich soil to yield "its rich treasures, there can be no doubt; a want, not of cheap labour (is not labour "cheap enough at a shilling a day?), but of educated skilled labour,—not of mere manual "operatives, but of artisans and tradesmen and yeomen; of immigrants who already "have some little capital, and know how to use it, and have wants which will force "them to accumulate yet more. In a word, the great desideratum of Jamaica is a hard-"working middle class, a class such as could not exist under its old régime, and which, "though now springing up with remarkable quickness, is still far too small. Captured "slaves, or prisoners of war, or Coolie or Kroomen, cannot furnish recruits to this class, "but far more than either Africa or India there are men who can.

"The free coloured people of the United States might supply this desideratum, by "sending men who would carry with them their wives and children, many of them "possessing no inconsiderable amount of capital, many of them trained under the "industrial influence of that energetic example, which their white oppressors, however "much they hate or despise them, cannot withhold from them. We can hardly hope "that these pages will be read by any of the leaders among this people, or we would "earnestly ask them, whether self-interest, and duty to their race, bond and free, does "not suggest to them an exodus from the land of bondage to tropical Jamaica, at least "more strongly than to cold Canada? In the States, their very faculties are a torment "to them, for the prejudice against colour allows their faculties no exercise. In Jamaica, "if in the minds of any men that prejudice still lingers, it is only to be laughed at; "how can it be otherwise when coloured men not only may be, but are, legislators, lawyers, "physicians, ministers, planters, editors, and merchants, as well as labourers? We are "aware we are treading on tender ground, and that some of the best of the coloured "men, and many of their sincerest friends, think, that, in hope of aiding their enslaved "brethren, they ought, under whatever obloquy or persecution, to remain citizens of the "Republic. It is not for us to mark out their course, and yet we cannot but think, "that by no possible means could they so effectually aid the American slave as by "teaching energy and industry to the free British negro, and by hastening forward, by "their precept and example, that time when from Jamaica and her kindred isles the "voice of a negro community, prosperous, educated, civilized, christian, shall speak to "republican despots and their victims words which both will hear, and which the "former will not be able to disregard.

"And that this time will come we hold to be no vain prophecy, foolish as to many it "may seem. We have faith in it, because we see it written on the page of history, in the "experience of the Anglo-Saxon, that he cannot toil in these islands or make a home of "them, and of the African that he can; because we see already foreshadowings of its "fulfilment in the progress which, since his feet have been unshackled, the African has "made,—a progress which, spite of its occasional tarryings or backward steps, is greater "than has ever in like period been made by Anglo-Saxon. And lastly, there needs a "supply of foreign labour, not indeed from Africa or India, nor yet only from America, "but from England; there needs now, and will for many years, a continuous immigra-"tion of English ministers and schoolmasters."

I have made this quotation because attention has been of late forcibly drawn to the introduction of the coloured people from America; but I do not concur in the partial view of this writer, who ignores all schemes of immigration except the one on which he so hopefully expatiates. His allusion to the alleged low price of wages shows that he has adopted "the current talk" against the introduction of any people who have only the simple status of a day labourer, on the ground that the native labourers were and are sufficient, and practically available, to supply all the labour which might be required for the cultivation of the staples of sugar and coffee.

But surely it is undeniable, that, from the abolition of the apprenticeship, all the efforts of the emancipated classes had for their aim and object the possession of land, either as freeholders or tenants, and that the offer of money wages had little or no influence in abating this desire. The history of compulsory manumission which preceded the apprenticeship foreshadowed this result. In no instance did the slaves who obtained their freedom under that system manifest the slightest inclination to remain as agricultural servants on the estates. They looked forward to their manumission as a happy deliverance from the drudgery of their former occupation.

No one can doubt that the example of these manumitted slaves, in the natural and laudable desire to gratify and improve their acquired freedom, was without its influence upon the large mass of the people who were waiting for the great act of emancipation.

Moreover, in the felicity and excitement of freedom, the passion for land assumed a more attractive shape, as an element of political power. The people were stimulated by many external circumstances to participate as quickly as possible in the elective rights from which as slaves they had been debarred, and it thus became the unfortunate peculiarity of the position of the emancipated classes to be governed by feelings and inducements which could and did not fail to place their apparent and tangible interests in opposition to those of their former masters.

There was thus created, in the final severance of compulsory labour from the cultivation of the staples, an impulse from which numerous village settlements gradually arose, forming large communities altogether independent of plantation labour. Now, without continuous labour the deterioration if not the ruin of cane cultivation was inevitable; but any expectation of continuous labour was clearly inconsistent with the change which placed within the reach of the negro more profitable and congenial sources of employment.

In the face, therefore, of a state of things in which labour could only be procured at intervals convenient to the labourer himself, there could be no more fitting remedy for the insecurity impending over agricultural operations than in the introduction of immigrant labourers.

There were undoubtedly many circumstances which induced the labourer to look to other sources for his support than wages. Many of these circumstances might have been avoided, or turned to better account for the furtherance of the interests of the proprietor. Prudence and forbearance might have in many cases reconciled the labourer to continue longer in his original occupation. The exigencies of the moment might probably have been less disastrous; the immediate detriment to cultivation might have been avoided; but every step which the labourer made in the progress of accumulation would be a warning to his employer to provide a substitute for him.

Whatever, therefore, might have been the disasters which have attended the result of the various projects for the importation of immigrant labour, I apprehend that, so long as cane cultivation is to be conducted by capitalists, with whom the whole risk and the whole profit or loss remain with themselves, a supply of labourers under contract terms must always constitute one of the main elements in the success of such enterprises.

Should the enterprise be profitable, the well-being of the immigrant is promoted; should loss ensue, it must not be forgotten that success was reasonably expected, and that the immigrant, however painful the result may be to him, is not the only suffering party. If, then, legislation does not permit any wider facilities for the encouragement of immigration than are consistent with the funds for the purchase of immigrant labour, it does all that may be needful to limit the demand, and to avert the evils of a foreign population being tempted by fictitious inducements to seek employment in this island.

Such are happily the existing enactments on the subject of immigration, and I can only hope that the gleam of more prosperous times which marked the commencement of the present year, will make 1856 conspicuous as the turning point in that long period of agricultural calamity from which all interests have suffered.

That calamity, however, has not been without some compensating influences. Drowning men catch at straws, and I hope it is no disparagement to compare that effort with the exertions which have been exhibited, in our distress, upon those "unconsidered trifles" which, at the Paris Exhibition, have signalized Jamaica as the depository of 683 distinct elements of wealth, which nature has bequeathed as a common legacy to all her inhabitants.

Many years ago a plan for investigating the natural productions of Jamaica was suggested, I believe, by the late Sir H. De la Beche. It was said then, that it had been long a matter of regret among men of science that those productions should be so little known in England; and now that a more earnest and practical spirit is enlisted in these inquiries, it may well be asked what prospect is there that the economic value of the various specimens which have recently attracted so much attention at Paris, can be developed on such a scale as to render them articles of exportable value.

Many of these specimens have already elicited inquiries from enterprising men both in France and England. At what rate can such products be supplied, and in what quantity, are the questions which practical men may be expected to ask, and which I find have been already asked.

But who can undertake to answer the question? Is there any person in any part of the island the most favourable for the production of fibre or wood, who could undertake to say that he could supply the most ordinary commercial demand for these articles?

I fear it cannot be denied that our capabilities are at present limited to the production of specimens only; that we can produce pints of our starches and blocks of our woods, but we are powerless for all practical development of the wealth which these samples indicate, simply from the same cause which has partly contributed to the downfall of many a sugar plantation, namely, the want of available labour.

It ought, therefore, to be an object of the highest importance in a country like this, whose staple productions have been declining for years past, that every effort should be made to introduce into it a class of settlers who may be reasonably expected to devote themselves to those various branches of industry the value and importance of which have been so highly distinguished in the recent competition of our products with the industry of the world; and it is with reference to these resources that every well-wisher to Jamaica

JAMAICA.

will heartily concur with the writer in the "Westminster Review," respecting the advantages to be derived from an emigration of the coloured people of America.

If it be true that they are sober and industrious, steadily advancing in wealth and social improvements, supporting from their own resources charitable and religious institutions, exercising most of the handicraft arts, desirous of education and instruction, and possessing the elements of civil respectability, they could not fail to diffuse over this island the qualities which are so required to improve the condition of our native population, and at the same time remove some of the obstacles and difficulties which at present discourage all enterprise in this island.

In conclusion, I beg to remark that there is no change, that I can perceive, which requires any remarks from me on the subjects of education, the progress of agriculture, and the state of crime in the district of St. Andrew.

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. Ewart,
Stipendiary Magistrate.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary.

Enclosure 4. in No. 7.

Sir, Custom House, Kingston, May 22, 1856.

In reply to your letter dated the 21st instant, No. 538, we have the honour to state, that not finding it practicable to make up the tonnage account according to the arrangement in time to accompany the other Returns for the Blue Book for the year ended the 31st December 1855, we have made arrangements with the out-ports for affording the requisite information with those Returns for the year ending the 31st December 1856.

We have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. Freeman, Collector.
R. B. Berry, Comptroller.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.
Governor's Secretary.

HONDURAS.

HONDURAS.

No. 8.

No. 8.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Henry Barkly to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 19.)

King's House, Jamaica, April 24, 1856.
Received May 19, 1856.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book Returns for the year 1855, accompanied by a report from the Superintendent upon their contents, written with Mr. Stevenson's accustomed ability.

2. His account of the progress made by the Legislature under his auspices in the very necessary task of placing the ancient laws and institutions of the settlement upon a regular and formal basis, is particularly ample and instructive, and indicates the great advantage which the inhabitants have derived from the administration of affairs being placed in the hands of a skilful lawyer, at the moment when the new political constitution was sanctioned by Her Majesty.

3. The commercial position of the settlement meanwhile seems steadily improving, there being a slight increase in the value both of imports and exports over the previous year, and as the latter has now reached something like half a million sterling, whilst the former falls little short of half that amount, British Honduras is certainly by no means the least important of the dependencies of the Crown.

4. Agriculture, too, seems at length about to give on the northern frontier a more permanent character to the occupancy of the soil than it has acquired from the wood cutting, which has hitherto formed the staple industry; and it seems not improbable that that fertile district may produce abundance of tropical products, and attracting population from the neighbouring states,

always suffering from chronic revolution, become at no distant date the most valuable part of the settlement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY BARKLY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of BRITISH HONDURAS for 1855.

"Taxes, Duties, &c."

It became necessary last year to make unusual provision for the erection of the gaol and other buildings which had been destroyed by the fire of August 1854, and for the construction of other works and improvements, which are much required for the public use; and for this purpose, in the absence of any other available tax, a duty of 2½ per cent. was imposed on all imported goods not already subject to specific duty other than that permanently imposed by the Constitution Act.

This duty will continue for three years from the passing of the Act imposing it; and at its commencement (1st March 1855) the one per cent. duty, which had been previously imposed on these imposts for general purposes, ceased. This accounts for the difference in figures under the heads of "Rated" and "Unrated" articles appearing in the

Comparative Statement of Revenue.

In other respects, under this head, there is a great falling off in the import revenue on "sugar" and "spirits and cordials;" in the former to the extent of 661*l.*, and in the latter to the extent of 2,780*l.* less than the previous year's amounts. This is solely attributed to the increased quantity of sugar, rum, and other spirits made in the northern district of the settlement, by the immigrant Spaniards and Indians, who have beeome cultivators and manufacturers there, and whose produce is not now subject to any local duty, so that there is no equivalent for the loss of revenue arising from the proportionately smaller importation of those articles. An attempt was made during the last session to impose a small duty on these local productions; but the Legislature considered it desirable to encourage these new producers, by affording them complete immunity for the present from all contribution towards the revenue.

Referring to the note at page 27 at the end of the table of comparative revenue, it will be seen that the apparent decrease in the aggregate amount still results in a great measure from the altered mode of keeping the books, referred to last year in reference to the credits for revenue; but this will be the last year in which such apparent differences will be observed.

The aggregate of ordinary revenue, which exceeds 20,000*l.*, is, however, more than equal to the ordinary expenditure, and the special revenue will, I hope, prove quite sufficient for the special purposes to which it is to be applied, a new iron bridge, now about to be contracted for, being, to its principal extent, otherwise provided for during the past session.

Legislation.

After the passing of the new Constitution Act (16 Vict. c. 4.), it became necessary to make many corresponding improvements in the laws, the courts, and several other local institutions, all of which had been very irregularly and informally framed and constituted; and this gave rise to many important Acts in the session of 1855 (none having been attempted in 1854, for the reason assigned last year), and such improving Acts have been continued during the session of the present year.

Twenty-two Acts were passed and allowed last year, many of which had these public improvements for their object. And among the Acts of the present year (of which there have been 20 passed) many of them have brought into better operation the Acts of last year, and have continued the constitutional improvements down to the present time.

HONDURAS.

A table of the titles of these Acts will be found at pages 60, 61, and 62 of this Blue Book; but among the Acts of a constitutional character I may particularly notice the following; viz.—

Chapter I. to facilitate the purchase of lands for public improvements where difficulties of title or disabilities of infancy or otherwise exist. A simple and summary method of acquiring legal title for such purposes is given through the medium of a magistrate and jury; while the due appropriation or investment of the purchase money is confided to the court in cases in which infancy or other disability prevents the immediate receipt of the purchase money by the owner of the purchased lands.

Chapter III. to amend the Marriage Act of 1852, which had declared illegal every marriage celebrated out of the town of Belize, and out of particular churches and licensed buildings therein. This Act of 1852 was found to operate very injuriously in the prohibition of marriages beyond the limits of the principal town, and either put the contracting parties to the difficulty and expense of travelling great distances, or (where that was impracticable) promoted, rather than discouraged, concubinage and illegitimacy; but under the new law every facility is afforded to the celebration of marriages in towns and villages in the country, after due publication of intention in the places in which the parties reside; and, where licensed houses or authorized ministers are not within reach, and the distance is too great to resort to Belize, the agency of magistrates is sanctioned, under particular restrictions. But in every case, by whomsoever the rite may be celebrated, regulations are prescribed for the periodical transmissal of certificates for the purpose of registration in the town of marriages celebrated in the country.

Chapter VI. to cheapen and facilitate administrations and probates where the assets are under 50*l.* The former laws on these subjects, and the regulated scale of charges, precluded the due administration of small estates; and, consequently, in remote places in the country, the forms of obtaining legal authority were not observed, the assets in many cases fell into bad hands, and the difficulty and expense of compelling honest accounts, and of exposing and punishing frauds, occasioned great injury to the powerless and the poor. By the new Act a simple application to a magistrate authorizes an order for provisional administration, under security for duly accounting; and, when the proceedings are confirmed by the ordinary, facilities are given for the enforcement of such duties as devolve on the accountable officer, and for the honest performance of his trust; and, when the domicile and the assets are at remote parts of the settlement, the summary authority of magistrates is given in aid of the powers of the ordinary.

Chapter VII. relating to the summary disposal by the magistrate of petty thefts.

Chapter X. improving the constitution of the police and summary courts, and establishing appeals therefrom.

Chapter XVIII. declaratory of the rights and privileges of aliens, and facilitating their naturalization within this settlement. This Act was framed in pursuance of the British Statute, 10 and 11 Vict. c. 83; and so far as appeared applicable to the wants and peculiarities of this country, it followed many of the provisions of the Imperial Act, 7 and 8 Vict. c. 66.

Chapter XIX. to sanction the powers and prerogatives exercised by Her Majesty's Superintendent. In adjusting the constitution and jurisdiction of the "courts," and the declaration of "laws in force," to harmonize with the improved legislative constitution, it became necessary to remove all doubt as to representative power of Her Majesty's Superintendent, which had been of necessity habitually exercised in this settlement in virtue of his office, although those powers had not been directly, but only inferentially, given by the general language of his appointment, and as some questions had been raised with reference to the exercise of the prerogative of pardon in sentences of death passed by the Commission Court, and other doubts might have arisen out of other constitutional changes in the courts and otherwise, it became desirable to set them all at rest by the aid of a legislative enactment assented to by the Crown. The present Act, therefore, so assented to by the Crown, fully authorizes the Superintendent or other administrator of the Government, whatever may be his designation, to exercise the prerogative of mercy, reprieve, and pardon, in respect of all crimes and offences whatsoever, and also to use

and exercise all other powers and prerogatives hitherto exercised by Superintendents, with the knowledge of the Government, and required for the executive authority of Her Majesty's representative within this settlement, as fully as if the same were specifically authorized by Royal Commission and Instructions, or those of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, as well as by the Governor of Jamaica, so long as this settlement remains a dependency of that island.

* * * * *

Chapter XXI. This "Act to improve the Constitution, and to enlarge the "Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, and establish Appeals therefrom," had long been required in this country. The earlier settlers had established sufficiently good tribunals of justice for their own limited wants, and, administering the local laws by means of a self-constituted magistracy alone, the alterations that were from time to time effected may have been enough for all their local requirements; but in process of time, when institutions were improved, and social arrangements originated new subjects of litigation, and when, twelve years ago, a legal judge was sent here and new laws were introduced, and forms required which had previously been wholly unknown, the earlier practice and arrangements of the courts proved inadequate to the wants of the country, and a well-defined jurisdiction of the superior criminal and civil courts, as well as of the inferior magisterial tribunals, became absolutely necessary. This is the principal of a series of Acts on the subject of these improvements, and it gives a well-defined and complete jurisdiction to the Supreme Court, on its criminal and civil sides, as well as a sufficient jurisdiction in equity, insolvency, and (to a limited extent) in respect of probate and administrations also. As there can be no local court of appeal, it facilitates appeals, as much as they can be facilitated, to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, by requiring the judge, within a given time, to furnish a full note of the question at issue and the point of appeal, and a copy of the evidence relating thereto, and also to state the precise direction given or refused, and the reasons of his judgment or direction, and any authorities in support thereof, and to sign and transmit the whole to the appellate court; and in the meantime there is given to the judge an opportunity of correcting a hasty judgment upon motion for new trial, &c. If carefully worked out, this Act will form an excellent basis for any improvement that may be from time to time thought necessary, and in the meantime it is sufficient for every immediate purpose. The great difficulty in dealing with this, or any other Act relating to the administration of justice, is the absence of a bar and properly authorized practitioners, and the scarcity of persons of position possessing sufficient leisure to give their gratuitous assistance to the duties of the courts, while at the same time there is a continuing reluctance to an educated lawyer occupying the sole judicial seat, without the slightest check or local control over his judgments. On all sides there are difficulties, which, however, a prudent and cautious judge ought soon to remove, when bringing the Act into healthy operation.

And Chapter XXII. "declaratory of the Laws in force in this Settlement." The greatest doubt and confusion appeared to prevail with respect to the state of the laws, both local and English. The former had to a great extent been disregarded, when they had not been regularly and continuously acted on; and many of them were so informal in their origin as to be almost untraceable; and the courts appeared to use or reject English laws almost at discretion, according to circumstances. Still there were many of the old ordinances and regulations that were well adapted to the continuing state of society, and required only careful amendment in some respects; while others, apparently still subsisting, were useless or mischievous, and only tended to mislead. It required, therefore, a first step towards these improvements, in the shape of a declaratory law; and the present Act is one of that description.

Firstly. It gives permanently to the earlier rules relating to the courts and their practice, which were still in use, subject to future alterations by the courts themselves.

Secondly. It confirms general and municipal regulations still unrevoked, and acted on to the present time, subject to future legislative changes.

Thirdly. It recognizes all resolutions relating to logwood and mahogany works and allotments of land, in so far as they establish ownerships and possessions, and regulate boundaries.

Fourthly. It protects all present possessions under old locations, where they have continued undisturbed for a given time; saving the rights of infants and persons under disability.

And, *lastly*, it declares, in general terms, what part of the common law and of the criminal and other statute laws of England are in force here, as being applicable thereto, and not in conflict with local laws in use.

With the foundation of this declaratory law, it only remained, first, to consolidate and reproduce all old and unpublished laws coming within the local sections of this Act, and afterwards, at leisure, to amend and improve them; but the first seemed to be a difficult undertaking here, as the minutes showed that, time after time, the attention of the Legislature had been directed to that object, and committee after committee had been appointed for that purpose, but the work had always been abandoned as one of hopeless difficulty. However, it was a necessary one, particularly in connection with the present law. So, finding no one else to do it, I thought it best to undertake it myself, and in the course of last year I prepared a complete consolidation of all these local ordinances and regulations, reproducing them fully, and at this last session laid them before the Legislature, with a recommendation that they should appoint a committee to examine them (if they desired to do so) with the records, and print and circulate them for general information, preparatory to any future amendments and repeals that may be necessary; and no doubt many will be required.

This committee has since been formed, and probably before the next session their duty, which is now little more than mechanical, will have been performed; but the completion of the work now rests with themselves.

Civil Establishment.

Some of the difficulties I pointed out in last year's Report are now in progress of removal. The Legislature has appointed a committee to inquire into the duties of certain public officers who undertake the simultaneous performance of plural and incongruous offices; and probably the next session may produce a change in this respect.

In the meantime, assistance is given to the Colonial Secretary in the performance of his secondary duties relating to the customs and check of the revenue, and the recently appointed Attorney General has commenced his official duties, and will henceforth relieve the executive of the assumed duties of preparing legislative measures to carry out contemplated improvements in the settlement.

In other respects the civil establishment appears sufficient for the wants of the settlement.

In the Ecclesiastical Establishment.

There is a deficiency, which, without some change or foreign assistance, it is difficult to supply. It is true we have a chaplain to the settlement, who is also incumbent of the principal church of St. John's, and there is also the incumbent of St. Mary's, who officiates also as garrison chaplain; but in a population like this there is much to be done that partakes more of the character of missionary labour than of that which is confined for the most part to services in the churches. The two districts of St. John and St. Mary may not be very populous, —probably the average stationary population may not exceed 4,000 or 5,000,— although the general belief is that when the town is tolerably full the number of persons must exceed 7,000; the town, however, is a very scattered one; and there are, I believe, hundreds of persons in the poorer sections (as indeed there are in the richer also) who never enter a church or hear the voice of ministry, unless it proceed from the Wesleyan, Roman Catholic, or Baptist, whose ministers profess more of the missionary habit than our churchmen at all profess. These poorer people require the zealous and untiring persuasion of missionary teachers, who would visit their own houses, teach them the plain and simple truths of the Gospel, and draw them by degrees into evangelical light; and much sedulous teaching is required in the gaols, hospitals, and other places, in which a mere occasional service makes no more impression than the formal visit of any indifferent officer of the institution. And a careful

organization of lay readers and of district visitors in both divisions of the town would be very desirable.

* * * * *

I have succeeded during the past session in securing provision for a missionary and schoolmaster for the northern district of the settlement, and have communicated the result to the Secretary of State, who had, upon my first suggestion, laid the spiritual wants of that district before a missionary society; but the wants are urban as well as rural, and this place seems to me to be peculiarly adapted to missionary labours.

If the Church Missionary or any other society could aid in the service of religion in our section of the Church, by sending one or two persevering and zealous men, accustomed to the work of towns, for the performance of missionary labours and teaching in this town, great good might soon be effected in the moral improvement of the people.

The incumbent of St. Mary's is also permitted to hold the independent chaplaincy to the garrison. In performance of the ordinary services of the Church, both in the district of St. Mary and in the garrison, there would, I apprehend, be no difficulty in the same officiating minister's engaging in the performance of both duties; but if, in addition to those services, there are likewise superadded those still more important duties of spiritually serving the hospital, the paupers, and the sick, and of visiting and teaching the poor, and attending to the schools, and also that of performing the same functions of teaching among the military and their children, it may require more activity and energy than any other than a young, zealous, and devoted minister can properly supply.

* * * * * *

Education.

The struggles that have lately been made to advance the improvement of the schools are now, I hope, beginning to produce their good effects; and an Act of the last Legislature, coupled with some financial means contributed, will produce three very desirable objects:—one is a concentration of all the Church and infant schools in a convenient and accessible part of the town, at which the children may more easily attend, and the board more constantly overlook the progress of the schools; a second is the improved salaries of the teachers, in order to facilitate the engagement of superior trained and certificated persons, who will also devote much attention to industrial teaching; and a third is the inspection by the head master over the other schools under the same establishment, in order to promote the same system of discipline and instruction in the principal public schools; while the Congregational schools, which are also very favourably supported by the settlement, are left to their own system and discipline, under a slight but sufficient check. Some sudden changes which took place last year in some of the teachers of these schools threw them back considerably; but as the new arrangements for engagement of better qualified instructors have already been put in train, and the new and spacious central schools have been commenced, it is hoped there may soon be such results as may mark the good effect of changes which have been so anxiously pressed. In the Saint Mary's School a Sunday school was established by the late incumbent, but was discontinued, after the arrival of his temporary successor; but in the principal schools of St. John (being the large free schools of the settlement) the pupils have been left to such religious instruction as could be imparted to them during the week alone; and attempts to introduce a Sunday school, either by the instrumentality of the incumbent or of the teachers, have hitherto proved abortive; but now it is hoped to be accomplished by the voluntary assistance of private persons; and, on the arrival of new teachers, it is possible that the system may become more perfect and regular.

The tables will show the continuing liberality of the settlement towards educational purposes, in extending support to all sectional and Congregational schools, where conscientious scruples prevent the use of those of the Established Church; and this perhaps may render it more important that the religious education of the pupils in the schools of our Church, which might otherwise

have been left more to private or parental care, should be the more zealously inculcated. It would also prevent the unpleasing contrast of the result of superior zeal in the Congregational schools.

Imports and Exports.

The table of exports must not be regarded as an indication of the productive resources of the country, as it contains many items of merchandise which merely pass through this settlement for shipment elsewhere, and ought to be entered as mere transit goods, as, for instance, cigars, cochineal, indigo, sarsaparilla, and other items of smaller note; and the export trade would be greatly assisted if there were any convenient arrangement for warehousing such goods and others in bond. I have strongly recommended the introduction of that system; but it is mistakenly supposed that it will seriously affect the revenues, which at present are principally derived from imports, although, whatever may be the effect for the first year or two, I am sure that the counterbalancing advantage in many other respects would soon improve the commercial condition of the country, and at the same time, in all probability, prove a permanent advantage rather than a detriment to the customs revenues.

Shipping.

The tables of the year show the entry of 61 British vessels, measuring 19,964 tons, and employing 703 men; three vessels of British possessions, measuring 82 tons, and employing 14 men; 43 of the United States, measuring 6,801 tons, and employing 290 men; and nine other foreign vessels, measuring 793 tons, and employing 55 men; being in the aggregate the employment of 116 vessels, 27,640 tons, and 1,062 men. And the same tables show a clearance of 123 vessels, measuring 31,692 tons, and employing 1,206 men, during the year 1855. The registration of these vessels has, since the middle of last year, been in conformity with the "Merchant Shipping Act, 1854." Previously to that period there never had been any registration of ships in this settlement otherwise than in conformity with certain regulations relating to coasting vessels.

Agriculture and Manufactures.

There are none that really deserve the name. The country has always been devoted to the pursuit of the great staples of logwood and mahogany, and no other description of agriculture has been attempted than that which has been used for the partial support of the wood cutters and others, and confined to the commonest and coarsest products; while manufactures have never been thought of. Attempts have indeed been made to cultivate the sugar cane in some favourable places; but the attempts, so far as I can learn, have been unsuccessful or unremunerative, when made on a large scale. But within the last few years the cultivation of the cane has been attempted by the recent Spanish and Indian settlers in the northern district, who, by their own rough means, have succeeded very fairly in establishing small but rather profitable plantations near Corosal, and on the margins of the principal rivers in that district. And although in no one place is there a large field of cultivation or anything like scientific agriculture or manufacture, yet the result has shown, as the tables prove, a pressure on the revenue on spirits and sugar, the aggregate amount produced and sent in small quantities from time to time to Belize being very considerable. In consequence of this experimental cultivation being in its infancy, the Legislature have been reluctant to attempt the imposition of any duty on these manufactured articles; and as it is important to encourage that description of immigration and cultivation, and it has hitherto proved as beneficial to the mahogany cutters as to the immigrants and cultivators themselves, it is hoped that the increasing prosperity of these new people, and the safety in which they are taught to regard their persons and property, within the protected limits of British territory and British laws, will induce others to follow their example of immigration, and scatter themselves throughout the settlement, where they will, I believe, be everywhere welcome.

Gaols and Charitable Institutions. HONDURAS.

The destruction of the gaol in 1854 rendered it necessary to remove all the prisoners into some place of sufficient accommodation. A large police station was at first used for some, and an almost unoccupied lunatic asylum was partly used for others; but by changes that have since been made the whole body of prisoners have since been sufficiently lodged in the former lunatic asylum, while the inmates of the latter have been removed to a contiguous newly purchased building; and the few paupers that are housed (not being on out-door pensions) were placed in a building within the gaol premises which had been prepared for their reception. All this temporary accommodation was improved towards the end of the year, and the whole has been made as convenient as circumstances permitted.

In the meantime a large and commodious new gaol is in progress of erection on an entirely new site; and it was at first arranged to devote one wing to the asylum for lunatics, with their separate yard, keeper, and attendants, and a portion of the other wing to the paupers, with separate arrangements for them; but as the whole building may probably be required for different classes of prisoners it is now determined to lodge the lunatics and the paupers in two separate buildings.

Of the lunatics there have hitherto been none admitted who have not been either criminal or pauper lunatics, requiring more the careful custody of watchful servants (aided by the superintending care of a medical officer) than the mental discipline of an asylum for the reception of inmates of a different character and condition; but some prospective changes now in contemplation may by and bye introduce a larger scheme of accommodation for lunatics of all classes and conditions, and a different treatment than that which has hitherto been available.

Of the inmates of the almshouse there have always been few, nearly all the paupers being out-door pensioners, who are confided to the care of their own relatives and friends, and of whom the numbers are given at p. 184. But where, as in the instance of some half-dozen old people who are now in this small institution, they have no friends or relatives, or are too old and infirm to be trusted to indifferent persons, they are housed, fed, and attended to in a house now temporarily substituted for that which was burnt in 1854, from which they will be removed to a better when built.

At present the constant attendance of one person is found enough, with the frequent visits and supervision of the gaoler and his wife, who now provide the food, and, during the temporary arrangements within the gaol premises, are required to perform these duties.

The hospital is a good institution, and of great value to seamen, who are the principal inmates; but destitute and houseless sick, and persons suffering from sudden and severe accident, are likewise entitled to admission; and it is sufficiently supported for all the purposes for which it is required.

Arrangements are about to be made, under a recent Act of the Legislature, for gaol accommodation for a certain class of prisoners for minor offences within the northern district of the settlement, where their short sentences of imprisonment do not justify the delay and expense of removal to the common gaol of Belize.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM STEVENSON,
H.M. Superintendent.

Government House, Belize,
April 5, 1856.

BAHAMAS.

No. 9.

No. 9.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor Sir A. BANNERMAN to the Right Hon. Sir H. LABOUCHERE, dated Government House, Nassau, November 11, 1856. No. 64. (Received 18 Dec. 1856.)

"I HAVE the honour to send herewith the Blue Book for 1855, which should have been forwarded before this time, but much delay took place from the absence of returns from some of the islands.

"I have forwarded along with the Book some interesting reports from Mr. Harvey, the Out-Island Engineer."

REPORT on Blue Book for 1855.

THE revenue for the year 1855 exceeded the revenue in 1854 by 3,103*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*; the revenue for 1854 being 25,966*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*, and for 1855 29,069*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* This increase is partially owing to the operation of the New Tariff, 17 Vict. c. 2, and to the increased quantity of merchandise introduced into the colony from "wrecks," subject to the ad valorem and auction duty under the said Act.

The expenditure for 1855 also exceeded that for 1854 by 885*l.* 4*s.* 2*d*; the expenditure in 1854 having been 26,259*l.*, while that in 1855 was 27,144*l.* 5*s.*

By the decease of the Receiver-General some saving has been effected under the provision of the Act (14 Vict. c. 15.) "for prospectively reducing the fixed expenditure of the Colony." This retrenchment is necessarily limited to certain departments, as the necessities of the colony have required, and will from time to time require the general expenditure of the colony to be increased, as has already occurred since the passing of the above Act, in increased remuneration to the various revenual officers at the outports, the establishing police stipendiary magistrates at Harbour Island and Abaco, and a stipendiary Out-Island Civil Engineer and Assistant Surveyor.

Nassau Library.

By a report laid before the House the number of volumes in the Nassau Library were 2,600.

Education.

By the report of the Board of Education, laid before the House of Assembly, there are 26 schools in active operation under that board, employing 40 teachers, at an annual cost of 1,331*l.* The board report an increase in the number of pupils on the books of the said schools over the preceding year, though, from the causes stated in the report, the average attendance of the pupils has been less. The board, however, report, that the schools generally maintain their efficiency in all the departments, and that the additional grant of 300*l.* per annum voted by the Bahama Legislature in aid of public schools has enabled the board to increase the salaries of many of their teachers, and to improve the school accommodation, which is still far from adequate to the wants of the populations of the various scattered islands of which this colony is composed, though the legislative educational grants in this colony, in point of liberality, may be favourably contrasted with other more populous places and with greater revenual means.

Civil Engineer for Out-Islands.

The reports of the Out-Island Civil Engineer, laid before the Assembly, are full of interesting and valuable information. In one of them he states, "Large quantities of valuable timber grow on Abaco; forests of pitch pine

" run nearly the whole extent of the island, and dog wood, madeira, horse " flesh, button wood, iron wood (black and white), and cedar, are found in " abundance.

" The malso tree is also growing in many parts of Abaco, and on some " of the neighbouring cays it grows in swampy places, and the inner bark " makes an excellent and strong rope, that is found to last a long time under " water."

In the same report he states that, " Many plants growing in the Bahamas " are suited to the production of fibre for paper and other manufactures; " that the Manilla plant is being cultivated at Abaco, and is found to grow " very luxuriantly."

* * * * * * *

" Tons of these various fibres might be exported annually from the Bahamas. " If there was a manufactory for the making of it, abundance might even now " be supplied from different parts of the Bahamas;" and " many would enter " into the cultivation of fibrous plants, were they assured of means of disposing " of the produce which a central depôt at New Providence would afford " them."

Inagua.

In his report this officer says, " Among the public works peculiarly needed " on this island, I must not omit to mention a lighthouse or lightstaff on the " south-east point. Mathew Town is situated on the south-west shore, and " the anchorage opposite being exposed, vessels cannot remain there during " westerly gales, but must round the point I allude to, to obtain the shelter " afforded on the south-east, where a reef extends for some distance, and on " which wrecks frequently occur; two vessels were run even aground on this " spot about a month ago. A light on this point would answer the double " purpose of security against the reef, and a guide for those who might be " compelled to shift their anchorage during darkness."

There are many more vessels unconnected with the Bahamas to whom the proposed light would be of advantage than vessels belonging to or trading with the Bahamas, and consequently any dues which might be authorized under the Act of Parliament, 18 & 19 Vict. c. 1, for facilitating the erection and maintenance of colonial lighthouses, would be very unequally levied, and would be totally inadequate to the object in view.

In the 16th paragraph of the Report of the Out-Island Civil Engineer he states further of Inagua, that " Man-of-War Bay, as its name denotes, is " capable of floating large ships, the water being deep enough in some parts " close to the rocky shore for vessels of a large size to come up;" and adds, " that it would be so perfectly feasible to construct a large shipping dock " within this bay, for the protection and repair of steamers and other vessels, " that I cannot refrain from just mentioning the possibility of Inagua possess- " ing, at some future day, as its prosperity increases, a public work of much " importance to the colony, and one that would so convincingly prove the " value of its geographical position."

The total value of merchandise directly and indirectly imported in the year 1855 exceeded that in the year 1854 by 60,756*l.*; the value in the year 1854 being 131,995*l.*, and in the year 1855, 192,751*l.*

The exports also in 1855 exceeded those of 1854 by 42,168*l.*; the value in 1854 being 69,502*l.*, and in 1855 being 111,670*l.* This may be attributable chiefly to the exportation of foreign cargoes wrecked within the colony. Thus, cotton, which was formerly grown in great quantities in the colony, and now sometimes appears among Bahama exports, is generally foreign cotton stranded on the Bahamas en route to England from New Orleans. The exports of articles belonging to the colony consist principally of salt, fruit, sponge, shells, hard wood, dye-wood, and barks.

There were 23 vessels built in the colony in 1855, of, together, 792 tons burthen.

The total number of vessels that cleared at ports of entry within the colony in 1855 were 345, of the burthen of 29,160 tons, and crews of 2,299 persons.

The value of Bahama produce exported in the year 1855 is estimated at 50,093*l.*, being 10,366*l.* over the value exported in 1854, the value in the latter year having been estimated at 39,727*l.*

BAHAMAS.

The increase occurs principally in the amount of salt and fruit exported.

The quantity of salt raked in the various cultivated salinas of the Bahamas varies considerably, as the pans without covering are liable to be inundated by heavy tropical showers that weaken the pickle, and delay for weeks, and sometimes months, the raking of salt from such pans.

It is the opinion of some experienced persons that such uncertainty might be very much obviated by roofing in pans in the Salina with glass, and by simultaneously improved drainage. The expense has, however, hitherto deterred the experiment being tested by individual leaseholders of salt pans; and it has been suggested that such experiment should be tested by the Government, from local Crown revenue applicable to colonial purposes.

If such experiment were successful, a vast increase in the annual quantity of salt made would result; and the coarse grained salt of the Bahamas is very much in demand in the United States for the curing of salt provisions for exportation, American, Liverpool, and some other salt, not being of sufficient strength alone for this purpose.

The plantations of pine apples and oranges have increased and are increasing; hence the additional quantity of fruit exported in the year 1855 over that of 1854.

A. BANNERMAN,
Governor.

C. R. Nesbitt, Colonial Secretary.

Encl. in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Out-Island Civil Engineer's Office,
Nassau, N. P., October 5, 1855.

Sir,

Agreeably to your Excellency's instructions, that I should examine Athol Island, with a view to its being converted into a quarantine station, for which purpose your Excellency has lately purchased it, and report upon all connected therewith, I have proved the survey, and examined the situation and taken a few soundings, and I beg to state that it appears to be a peculiarly desirable locality for such a purpose as your Excellency has in contemplation. The island being dry, free from swamps (for the two or three spots that from their low situation appear likely to be swampy at some seasons of the year might be easily drained), and rising in one part to a height of 30 feet above the level of the sea, would naturally lead to the conclusion that it must be a healthy situation, which opinion is confirmed by the testimony of those who have inhabited the island for the last twelve years, and who consider it to be remarkably healthy. The soil is well adapted for raising fruit trees, of which there at present number about 300 of different kinds, oranges, pears, sugar apples, and in fact a specimen of almost every tropical fruit, as well as various vegetables. It has also the advantage of wells of excellent water.

The spot that I would recommend as the site for the proposed hospital is nearly the highest point of land on the island, about half a mile from the west end. Not very distant from this point is a well of excellent water, and another might be dug just at the foot of the hill.

There is a projecting rock at the south-eastern side of the island, which would be admirably adapted for a wharf and coaling station. In a direct line in front of this rock the soundings were 9, 13, 16 feet, and along the southern side towards the west they gave 12, 12, 11 and 10 feet, whilst from the point I allude to as good for a wharf, towards Cochrane's Anchorage, distant three and a half miles to the east-south-east, the soundings were 16, 14, 18, 17, 22 feet, &c. There is good anchorage within two miles of this east end of the island. Her Majesty's ship "Barham," drawing 20 feet 4 inches, anchored here in 1829, and rode out a very severe south-west gale without receiving any injury.

A large accumulation of sand attracted my attention opposite the Narrows, between the end of Hog Island and Athol Island, and induced me to investigate the various currents that run with considerable force through the passages amongst these islands, and the rocks and cays around; and I discovered what I suspected to be the fact, that during the northerly gales these conflicting currents cause this deposit of sand to the south of these Narrows, through which by far the greatest quantity of sand is driven, and which eventually must work down and injure the valuable harbour of Nassau. Could the various currents which now cause eddies and sand bores be brought to run through one channel, its volume of water, unimpeded by contrary currents, would by its own force deepen the present channel across this deposit of sand; and it appears to me that this object might be attained without difficulty by throwing a barrier across from Hog Island to Athol Island, for which purpose there is abundance of material close at hand; and this once done, the sand, instead of driving through the Narrows, and accumulating on the bar of sand to the south, would be arrested on the northern side, and soon form a beach that would effectually

and permanently fill up the passage, and the whole distance from the west point of Hog Island to the east point of Athol Island would be protected, and might be preserved free from all obstructions by the constant use of a dredging machine, which must before long be employed for the widening, &c. of the channels in the harbour.

Deepening the bar at the western entrance, filling up the Narrows at the east end, and the constant use of a good dredging machine, appears to me all that is requisite to make a most excellent harbour for Nassau.

Should these improvements be carried into effect, a lighthouse will be required at the eastern entrance of the harbour, and I have marked an excellent site for one on the plan accompanying this report.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir A. Bannerman, &c. &c. &c. (Signed) Thomas C. Harvey, C. E.

I have also to state there is a good channel from Salt Cay Anchorage, which lies three quarters of a mile N.W. of the western end of Athol Island, to the anchorage of Hanover Sound, half a mile to the N.E. of the centre of Athol Island, and that from thence the channel to Cochrane's Anchorage passes the eastern extremity of Athol Island.

T. C H.

The Governor herewith sends to the House of Assembly two reports made out by the Out-Island Civil Engineer in the months of July and December respectively in the past year.

(Signed) A. Bannerman,
Governor.

Government House, Nassau,
11th February, 1856.

Sir, Nassau, July 11th, 1856.

I have the honour to send you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, my report of the present state of the public works on the out-islands, with such other information as my instructions required me to obtain.

2. The prosperity of Inagua depending entirely on the great natural advantage that it possesses in its superior Salina (which extends for miles, and from which industry can, at a comparatively trifling outlay of time and labour, extract a remuneration hardly to be credited by those unacquainted with the value of such a salt pond as exists on this island), it is self-evident that all public works commenced under the present circumstances should have for their primary object the development of the resources of this mine of wealth, and the rendering its produce available to the greatest possible extent. Keeping this object in view, I have investigated the present state of the works on the island, and have endeavoured to discover from those most conversant with its affairs what are the greatest difficulties that the salt proprietors have to contend with, and how far those difficulties may be met, or in any measure overcome, by the adaptation of the public works to their relief.

3. The most pressing difficulties appear to be:—

The want of an easy and expeditious mode of conveyance for the staple commodity from the salt pond to Mathew Town;

The want of shelter for the salt whilst remaining there awaiting shipment; and,

The unsafe and precarious embarkation of the salt on board, often through a heavy surf to the exposed anchorage where the vessels lie.

4. I beg to lay before his Excellency a plan for a boat dock, salt houses, and railroad, that I believe would completely obviate these difficulties, and enable the whole Salina in due time to be cultivated without any local drawbacks; and I have the great satisfaction, in presenting these suggestions to the consideration of the Governor, of knowing that the most influential proprietors on the island perfectly agree in opinion with me, and see nothing of a chimerical character in the undertaking I would propose.

5. At the north extremity of Mathew Town there exists a small bay, inland of which a dock might be constructed, where vessels drawing eight feet of water could remain in perfect security, and be loaded without the slightest risk, and at very small cost of labour. As the rock is being excavated for the formation of the dock, I would advise that it be used for the commencement of a breakwater at the south-west point of the bay, a spot where such a work may be hereafter most advantageously completed. On the sides of this dock I would suggest that the sheds for the warehousing of salt (so much desired by the proprietors, but objected to when proposed to be built in front of the town) should be erected, as the most convenient situation, being close to the place of embarkation; and for the transportation of the salt to these warehouses I would propose a railroad in a direct line from the pond, one end to pass through the salt houses, and the other to branch off around the pond as the cultivation of the Salina is extended. Connected with this plan, I would recommend near the salt houses that large reservoirs should be made, partly excavated in the rock, to receive the rain water, which might be collected in great quantities from the roofs, which should be built with this object, and furnished with proper gutters for the purpose. If the water from these tanks were sold for a trifling sum, it would contribute essentially to the comfort of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, and this supply of pure water would not only obviate the distress often felt in dry

weather, when the wells now trusted to are almost empty, but would prevent disease, which the sadly impure state of the water they are now compelled to use is so liable to produce.

6. Of the works already in operation at the salt pond, the dams, built to prevent the inundation of the fresh water, require repair, the recent continued rains having swelled the water to the north of the dams to a height that has injured them, and overflowed the adjacent keys; and if this is not remedied great damage may hereafter result to the cultivated pond below. I would recommend, to obviate this danger, that the dams be re-constructed, and carried up one foot higher, and continued over the keys, and to protect that portion of the Salina, north of the present dams, now commencing to be purchased, and brought under cultivation, I would advise that a new dam be made across the Salina, half way between Craig's Canal flood gates and the southern dams. Before long another canal to the sea will become necessary, and if it be constructed on the south side of the proposed northern dam, it could be made to fill a large space between the dams, as a reservoir for pickle to supply the pans around as they became enclosed. This canal, if properly constructed, might also be made to furnish pickle for the whole of the remaining uncultivated Salina.

7. The road from the Rocky Cay to the main road or east avenue, which is set out but not commenced, is much called for, the ground on each side being under cultivation, and the proprietors without a road for the conveyance of their salt from the deposits. The roads generally require much repair; the east avenue particularly should not be allowed to remain in its present unfinished state. A bridge is in course of construction on the east avenue, for which I have furnished a plan and specification, at the request of the Salt Pond Commissioners, made to me through the Crown Commissioner.

8. Closely connected with the success of the working of the Salt Pond is the subject of labour, the deficiency of which, in Inagua, obliges the proprietors to go to a great expense to procure labourers from Nassau and other places, who remain in the island only long enough to complete their agreements, and having no inducement to settle return to spend their earnings elsewhere; a species of absenteeism very injurious to the interests of the island. I would humbly suggest, that if small grants of land, one quarter of an acre or even less, were given to such as felt disposed to settle, it would give them a motive for remaining, and a local interest for the future, and their spare time, when the ponds are not worked, would be most usefully and profitably employed in cultivating the small plots of ground around their cottages.

9. The inhabitants of Mathew Town are very desirous to have a wharf near the centre of the town for the landing of passengers, &c., and I would recommend the point between Jib and Commissioners Bays as the best suited for the purpose, as it offers great natural facilities. The space leading to this point would be an excellent spot for a market house.

10. Among the public works peculiarly needed on this island I must not omit to mention a lighthouse or light-staff upon the south-east point. Mathew Town is situated on the south-west shore, and the anchorage opposite being exposed, vessels cannot remain there during westerly gales, but must round the point I allude to to obtain the shelter afforded on the south-east, where a reef extends for some distance, and on which wrecks frequently occur; two vessels were run aground on this spot about a month ago. A light on this point would answer the double purpose of security against this reef and as a guide for those who might be compelled to shift their anchorage during darkness.

11. I have received communications from the Crown Commissioner requesting my attention to the state of the prison, to the deficiency of water, and as to the best site for the erection of a sun dial. In consequence I have visited and inspected the prison, but find it so unfit in every way for its object that I can only recommend that another be built of stone, and in a more suitable situation. The present building is without ventilation; no separate cells for female prisoners, and no security against escape for any; and being situated in the principal street, it has become quite a public nuisance. The only remedy for the deficieny of water that appears at present to be feasible is to construct a sufficient number of tanks and reservoirs for the preservation of rain-water in a pure state; and I would recommend that all the public buildings should have such attached to them, to insure a good supply; and if all the possessors of houses would follow the example being now set by several of the principal residents, of building tanks to receive the water from the roofs of their dwellings, the present distress would be alleviated. I have before mentioned that the distance of the Horse-pond Wells from Mathew Town, and the necessarily impure state of the water found there, render them inadequate and unfit as a supply to be depended on. If they afforded a sufficient quantity of pure water, pipes might be laid down to convey it to Mathew Town, but the expense would be considerable, and reservoirs in the town promise a more efficient dependence; but the Horse-pond should be cleansed and walled in, that the water may be preserved as pure as possible.

12. The church requires only the internal fittings-up, expected shortly to arrive from New York, to be made ready for divine service, which is at present performed in the school-house; but the grounds to both require enclosing. Adjacent to these are several reserved lots, which I might perhaps be allowed to remark would be admirably adapted to the purpose, from their situation, should it be determined to build a larger Government House for the residence of the Crown Commissioner, and for a parsonage,

should the original intention of appropriating one to that purpose be carried out. The present residence of the Crown Commissioner being close to the shore, might be advantageously converted into a Custom House and residence for the Receiver of Customs.

13. Although, as I have said, the present circumstances of Inagua require that the staple commodity of the place should be the paramount and more immediate object in every undertaking, still it is by no means the only resource of this favoured island, for when it is taken into consideration that it is situated in a latitude where the most luxuriant vegetation in the world is to be found, and that it possesses large tracts of rich prairie ground, and more hilly country towards the east, where miles of the best possible land for agricultural pursuits is found (and to which the proposed railroad would approach within two miles), and that close at hand there are two such good fertilizers of land as lime and salt, it becomes clearly evident that it only needs a population who would take advantage of its resources to render it a very garden for productiveness. Amongst the resources of Inagua ought to be mentioned the cattle, horses, pigs, and goats that at present roam wild, and are little sought after, over the Savanna that occupies the centre of the island, and which might be with very little trouble caught for food or labour. I have visited the Savanna, and saw about twenty head of cattle which had been turned out there to graze, and they were in excellent condition; and I have been assured that better beef can no where be met with than that produced wild in this country. I believe, judging from what I observed, there could be no exaggeration in saying that fifty thousand head of cattle might be pastured on the grass covering this extensive tract of land, and if leased it would find ready tenants, and yield a good revenue to Government.

14. There are also some valuable woods found on the island, some of which has been sold for forty dollars a ton.

15. I have visited Man-of-War's Bay, and walked from thence to the Savanna, and find that if a barrier to prevent the incursions of the wild cattle were erected at this part, it might be carried in a straight line from Man-of-War's Bay to Lake Rosa, a distance of about three miles, and that it would enclose about three miles by four miles in extent of prairie ground, covered at present with grass a foot high. This would afford ample pasturage for at least five thousand head of cattle, besides sheep, &c. On the Savanna there are many ridges and clumps of trees, and making use of these, a worm fence may easily be constructed; or, if a stone wall were more desirable, there are many spots in the direct route covered with stone which might be used for the purpose. The advantage of this land, so protected, to the well-being of Inagua, is incalculable, for cattle might be turned out there in perfect safety; and I noticed several large natural reservoirs on the rock full of rain water, which would ensure a supply for the cattle. At present food is very dear and often scarce, but with such pasturage as this wall would secure there need never be any scarcity of animal food; and perhaps it may be worth the attention of Government, whether a settlement located in this part of the island would not greatly tend to the developing of the resources of Inagua, the settlers to look after the cattle and cultivate the ground, and living themselves independent of the salt ponds, provide a regular supply for the market of Mathew Town, of beef, fruit, vegetables, corn, &c.

16. Man of-War's Bay, as its name denotes, is capable of floating large ships, the water being deep enough in some parts close to the rocky shore for vessels of a large size to come up. It may be premature even to hint at such an idea, but it would be so perfectly feasible to construct a large shipping dock within this bay, for the protection and repair of steamers and other vessels, that I cannot refrain from just mentioning the possibility of Inagua possessing, at some future day, as its prosperity increases, a public work of such importance to the colony, and one that would so convincingly prove the value of its geographical position.

Fortune Island, or Long Cay.

17. The public works on this island requiring more immediate attention are:—the prison, the site for which has been chosen at such an inconvenient distance from Albert's Town that I have not advertised for tenders, in the hope that, if possible, it may be changed to a situation of greater security. The spot at present fixed on is at some distance beyond the side of the pond opposite to the town, and they say it will be difficult to convey prisoners to such a distance, and insecure for the gaoler, on account of the loneliness of the place. The more desirable situation would be near the present lock-up house, between the pond and sea.

18. *The Salt Ponds.*—At Albert's Town Pond the canal requires repair, and the walls of the new portion to be raised two feet higher, and a new abutment at the outlet to protect the sluice gate, and the wall to be well cemented on the inside and outside. The public road across the pond requires to be raised two feet higher, to prevent its being overflowed, as it now is in wet weather; and the several roads crossing and leading to the pans should be supplied with trunks to conduct the rain water to the sea.

Allen's Pond.—There is a tolerably good inlet to this pond, but it requires a better outlet, properly constructed and protected, to run off the rain water quickly, and a dam is needed across the pond to protect the cultivated portion.

Conch-Divers Pond canal requires the floodgate to be raised, and a breastwork formed to protect it. Windsor Pond is not yet under cultivation. Some of the pans in the different ponds of this island are in excellent order.

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19. Divine service is held in the schoolhouse, which is in want of a new roof. The foundation of a church much larger than is required was commenced and abandoned some time ago. The burial ground is unenclosed.

20. A building for the Crown Commissioner's office is much wanted.

Long Island.

21. The works on this island requiring attention and repair are,—

The Road from Chancery Pond.—Instead of repairing this road, I would advise that a canal be cut to the sea from the pond, which would serve the double purposes of letting out the rain water and conveying the salt at a cheaper rate. The road is very steep and rough, and would cost, to be properly repaired, as much as the making of a new road, and the annual expense of keeping it up would be considerable.

22. This island has to contend with an unusual difficulty from its formation, which is much more hilly than the generality of salt islands; and these high districts cause an accumulation of water which, unless the outlet to the sea be large enough to admit of its speedy removal, overflows the pans, and it has frequently happened that the produce of a season has been thus destroyed in a few hours. This, I apprehend, would be impossible with such a canal as I speak of. All the pans on this island are in such very good order that, should the season prove favourable, much salt must be made.

23. The canal at Harbour Pond requires to be cut deeper and wider at the mouth, and a metal grating to be placed across the entrance at this spot, to prevent, as far as possible, injury accruing to the ponds from the fish.

24. The lessees are willing to co-operate with the Government in any plans for the improvement of the ponds.

25. The prison requires a new roof and other repairs, the expense of which will exceed the grant made by the Legislature.

26. A police office is much wanted.

27. There is a good church on the island. The allotted burial-ground requires enclosing. At present graves are to be seen scattered about in all parts of the island.

28. Labour is much wanted on this island, and I would suggest that if a portion of the reserved ground in the vicinity of these ponds were given to such persons as would settle there it would tend to the removal of this difficulty.

Rum Cay.

29. The canals on this island require cleaning out, and in many places to be deepened. The sides should be walled up, to prevent the earth from being washed into the canals, and the earth should be thrown back at least twenty feet from the edges. The inlet to the pond requires to be widened, and the retaining walls repaired, and in some places rebuilt, the foundations not having been built upon the rock, and being otherwise defective.

30. A few moveable barrow runs or moveable bridges are required to enable the proprietors to wheel their salt to the temporary deposits across the canal. Two of the small bridges need repair.

31. During the rains the pans are often overflowed, and many heaps of salt swept away. To remedy this evil, I would recommend that a dam be made on the outside of the cultivated pans in the main reservoir, with two sluice gates in it, at least four feet high and twenty feet broad, extending the whole length of the pond now cultivated. Much loss has been sustained for want of this dam.

32. The main salt pond road requires repair.

The ground allotted for the deposit of salt should be re-arranged according to the number of acres of salt-pond held by each lessee; at present it is very irregularly laid out, and many have not room enough for the deposit of their salt, and some have no place at all.

33. The gaol needs some slight repair.

34. There is no church or schoolhouse belonging to the Establishment on this island. Divine service is held in the police office over the gaol.

35. I may mention that the land in this island is excellent, and cultivation might be much extended; at present corn, fruit, vegetables, and cattle are raised to some extent.

Norman's Pond Cay.

36. The salt-pond on this island is in a most excellent condition throughout, but requiring a good outlet on the east side, to prevent the pans from being overflowed, the present canal on the west side not being sufficient.

37. In front of this small island there is an excellent harbour of considerable extent protected by a line of cays, the anchorage within which is very good. There are two channels by which ships may enter this harbour; the deepest is that between the centre cay named Adderley Cay, which directly faces Norman's Pond Cay, and the three rocks called the Three Sisters. To mark this spot, I would recommend that a beacon should be erected upon Adderley Cay, from whence it would be visible for a sufficient distance on the outside of these cays. Some time ago a large vessel that was afterwards wrecked was seen driving past this channel in a heavy squall; had this opening to safe anchorage been known this vessel might easily have put in.

St. Salvador.

38. The gaol at Arthur's Town is newly built, and of course in good repair, but the arrangements in placing a window between the cells, thereby enabling the prisoners to see and converse with each other, appears to me to be so objectionable that I should recommend its being filled up. The gaol at the Bight requires repair, for which a sum of money has been voted by the Legislature.

39. The soil of this island is excellent, and produces fine pine apples.

40. The salt-ponds are uncultivated.

New Portsmouth (Rock Sound).

41. The wharf at this place, for which a grant has been made by the Legislature, is much wanted.

42. The road between Tarpum Bay and Rock Sound is almost entirely overgrown by the bush, and the sum voted by the Legislature for this work is barely sufficient for properly clearing the bush for a road twelve feet wide.

43. The burial ground is uninclosed, and the graves are very much exposed; some are barely covered.

44. Having fully examined into the various modes adopted by the salt proprietors on the different islands for the working of the salt ponds, it appears evident to me that the system of working by shares is the one that, under the peculiar circumstances of these islands, affords the most satisfactory results. Exuma is the only island amongst those that I have visited that has a sufficient supply of labourers, either for the salt works or for agriculture; and consequently some mode of proceeding that will overcome this difficulty must be devised before the islands can attain to anything approaching the remunerating productiveness of which they are capable; and wherever the share system is fairly carried out I have found that the proprietors are better off, and the labourers happy and contented; the interest they themselves have in the success of the work counteracts their roving and idle propensities, and thus secures to their employers, at all seasons, the full amount of needed labour.

45. Another topic I am induced to allude to before I close my report, which I hope may not be considered irrelevant to its intention, viz., the great advantages that would follow the establishment of a regular and speedy inter-insular communication in the Bahamas. At present (and I can speak from experience) it is often uncertain, difficult, and even dangerous, to go from one island to another; but with a moderate sized steamer, most of these dangers, and all the uncertainty and difficulty, would be avoided. The tides and currents run with fearful velocity through many of the passages and channels amongst the rocks and islands, and a sailing vessel is often unable to resist their force, whereas steam would give a power of resistance that would make it comparatively easy to round the difficult points and avoid the dangerous rocks. The regularity and speed of steam would connect the islands so much more closely that the produce of one might find a regular and certain market at others; and doubtless if such a vessel were fitted up for passengers the intercourse would become frequent and remunerative. The vessel that I should recommend for the purpose would be a small iron screw steamer, drawing eight feet of water, fitted up for sailing, and constructed to burn either wood or coal. A draught of more than eight feet would not be advisable, on account of the shallowness of many parts of the route that it would be desirable for it to take. There is abundance of wood on the islands, and it would of course economise to use this for fuel; at the same time that, as it could be supplied at the different islands, the carrying the great weight of a large quantity of fuel would be avoided. A steamer of this size might also keep up a regular communication with some near port in the United States, and neither the original cost, nor the expenses of keeping it up, would be very great.

Appended to this report will be found the estimates that I have drawn up of the proposed works, and I have no doubt they will approach very nearly, if not exactly, to the necessary sums; but as I have not as yet had much experience of the local difficulties of the Bahamas, I beg to be understood as giving an approximate rather than a positive valuation. Every country has its peculiar advantages and drawbacks for and against the execution of public works, and experience alone can authorize an engineer in giving a positive estimate.

I have, &c.

Thos. C. Harvey.

ESTIMATES FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS ON THE OUT-ISLANDS

Works in Progress.

	£	s.	d.
Burial ground wall and gate, Inagua - - -	125	11	10
Repair to wall of sluice gates to the southern canal, Inagua - - - - - -	20	16	8

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WORKS FOR WHICH GRANTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE LEGISLATURE.

	£	s.	d.
Wall and gate to burial ground, Inagua	129	0	0
Completing gaol at Long Cay	155	16	8
Repairs to gaol at Long Island	7	10	0
Completing gaol at St. Salvador	27	10	0
Public wharf at New Portsmouth, Rock Sound	60	0	0
Repair to road from Tarpum Bay to Rock Sound	70	0	0

PROPOSED WORKS.

Inagua.

Dock	5000	0	0
Salthouses	7000	0	0
Railroad	4000	0	0
Reservoirs for 6 months' supply for 700 inhabitants, at 3 gallons each per day	560	0	0
Dams to salt pond	80	0	0
Wharf	80	0	0
Sun dial and stand	14	0	0
Walls to enclose church and schoolhouse	140	0	0
Horse-Pond Wells, enclosing and cleansing	20	0	0

Long Cay.

Albert's Town Pond canal	20	0	0
Public road across the pond	25	0	0
Allen's Pond outlet	30	0	0
Dam across Allen's Pond	45	0	0
Conch-diver's Pond canal	12	0	0

Long Island.

Canal to the sea from Chancery Pond	860	0	0
Canal mouth, Harbour Pond	6	0	0
Metal grating	38	0	0
Prison repair	20	0	0
Wall around burial ground	70	0	0

Rum Cay.

Deepening and cleansing main canals	200	0	0
Walling portions of the sides of canals	700	0	0
Repair of retaining walls to canal inlet, and enlarging mouth	13	0	0
Barrow runs	16	0	0
Repair to two bridges	5	0	0
Dam across the pond	900	0	0
Repair to main road	20	0	0
Burial-ground wall	90	0	0
Norman's Pond Cay, canal of, and outlet	55	0	0

Out-Island Civil Engineer's Office,
December 13, 1855.

SIR,

I RETURNED on Saturday last from visiting Harbour Island, a part of the northern end of Eleuthera, Spanish Wells, and the Bluff, and I beg to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the result of my examination of the public works, &c.

1. The proposed plan for the new prison at Harbour Island is not suitable for so large a district, and I have therefore delayed the commencement of the building until the contractor shall have received further orders. The district of Harbour Island, for which this prison is intended, 3,200 inhabitants, and the average number of prisoners per month for the last five months has been nine (all but one being from Harbour Island). The proposed gaol was to contain only two cells, each of the size of 9 feet 9 by 12 feet, so that as many as eight men, and often more, might have to be confined in the small space of 117 square feet.

2. The grant from the Legislature not being sufficient to make the required enlargement and to repair St. John's Chuch, I have been also obliged to delay this work. Whilst there I proposed a plan that I believe will considerably increase the accommodation in the church, and obviate the necessity of petitioning the Legislature for a further grant of money; and when I left it was the intention of the rector to call a vestry to take the plan into consideration.

3. The burial ground is unenclosed, and the graves can scarcely be discovered from the confused and irregular mode of placing them; more land will be continually required if some better plan is not adopted. I suggested to the rector that it would be advisable to

call a town meeting to decide on some regular plan of proceeding for the future, to economise the space; and I have promised to forward them a plan for the proper arrangement of the graves.

4. The harbour is shallow, but well protected, lying between the island and Eleuthera. Were a good channel kept open across the bar which extends from Dunmore Town to Eleuthera, large vessels might lie in perfect saftety near the Eleutheran shore opposite Dunmore.

5. Several vessels are in course of construction, one nearly completed, of a hundred tons burden.

6. The town might be greatly improved by the building of a wall about 200 feet from the shore, in front of the town, across that part of the extensive harbour where the sea has encroached, in some places as much as ten feet on the front side, the enclosed portion to be converted into a boat dock, with wharves and slips.

7. The inhabitants of Harbour Island cultivate small patches of land on the opposite shore of Eleuthera, and roads are much needed on the latter island, to enable them to prosecute with success their agricultural pursuits.

8. One is much wanted from the landing place from Harbour Island to Pitman's Cove, the pathway at present used being very circuitous, rugged, and, in rough weather, impassable, at the Narrows, over which a bridge ought to be built. The sea in tempestuous weather breaks violently through this gorge, and cuts the cove off from communication with Harbour Island.

9. A bridge across the Narrows would require to be 90 feet long, and to be built at an elevation of 30 feet above high water; but it could be used at all seasons, and would make the cove more habitable. At present, not even in cases of sickness, can they procure advice or help during bad weather. The expense of this road would be moderate.

10. A road has lately been opened from Bridget Point across Eleuthera towards Spanish Wells. This road should be extended over the hill to the harbour of Harbour Island, that in rough weather, when rounding Current Point is very dangerous, there might be the power of signalising to Dunmore for boats to cross the harbour. This road would enable the inhabitants of Dunmore and Spanish Wells to attend to their plantations on both sides, and to ship their produce in all weathers. Even since the opening of the present road, a few houses have been built, and plantations have been made, and they are rapidly extending. Corn, arrowroot, cassava, potatoes, yams, beans, peas, &c. are already growing luxuriantly nearly the whole extent of the road.

11. The planting of cocoa-nut trees has latterly engaged the attention of the people of Harbour Island, but not to anything like the extent it might be profitably carried.

12. Spanish Wells is a small island, with a well-protected harbour for vessels drawing about six feet of water. The inhabitants number 350, almost all white. They depend on their plantations in Eleuthera, on wrecking, and fishing; for support, they also raise a number of pigs, and make fishing twine and straw hats from the palmetto leaf. They have ten fishing smacks and two wrecking schooners belonging to them.

13. There is a small church built of wood, and a Wesleyan chapel, and there is a good public school. The burial ground, from being unenclosed, is in a sad state, the graves washed out by the sea, and rooted up by the pigs that run about the town, till bones can be seen on the beach and about the burial-places on the ridge.

14. The Bluff is a headland of Eleuthera. No harbour. The inhabitants, 300 in number, are all black, with the exception of one old white resident and his family, a Mr. Kelly, who owns lands several miles in extent. The settlement is in a valley at a short distance from the point of land called the Bluff, and the houses so entirely surrounded by fruit trees that they are hardly visible.

15. There is no wrecking from this place, and the people devote themselves to agriculture. They are extending cultivation, and planting rapidly. Almost all the tropical fruits may even now be seen there, and many vegetables. 500,000 oranges, 1,000 bunches of bananas and plantains, besides other fruits, and arrow-root, cassava, &c., have been shipped this year. Many trees were still full of fruit, which was sold, and awaiting shipment.

16. A road is much wanted from this settlement to the one from Harbour Island to the Cove. At present both are mere winding paths; but if one were made to join the proposed road to the Cove it would pass through much good land.

17. Well-water here is particularly good, pure, clear, and sparkling, in consequence of the rock being so firm and hard. There is no better anywhere in the Bahamas. The inhabitants of this settlement are industrious and orderly. About sixty able-bodied men turned out, and in two days cleared all the roads and streets.

19. A large swamp close to the settlement extends to the Current, and is found to be unhealthy, not being salt enough to prevent malaria. I had not time to examine thoroughly as to the feasibility of draining it, or admitting the sea-water.

20. Small boats are built here; four were on the stocks when I visited the place.

21. There is a small church and a Wesleyan chapel. No enclosed burial-ground; the graves very irregularly placed, and some hardly to be seen or recognized.

22. Royal Island is about three and a half miles long, and very narrow. The harbour is excellent; about one mile long and a quarter of a mile wide. Vessels drawing twelve

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feet of water can enter at any time, and lie there in perfect safety. It is much frequented by vessels from Nassau and Harbour Island. The "Skip Jack" surveying vessel, and other vessels of the surveying squadron under Captain Lawrence, anchored inside.

23. The island has some pasture-land on it, and raises a few pines, and corn, peas, potatoes, and yams. They have a few head of cattle, and pigs and poultry. It is occasionally resorted to by invalids from Nassau and other places.

24. I omitted to mention in my report on Andros Island the necessity of a road from the north of that island to Nicoll's Town, and from thence to Fresh Creek. The great importance of this road may be understood when it is considered that the vessels might be built at the latter place at a very moderate price, if there were the means of conveyance for the abundance of wood suitable to the purpose that is found at a short distance inland; and at the same time, that it would open a rich and valuable tract of land, that would speedily be cultivated.

25. I am anxious to bring forward the imperative necessity that exists for roads throughout the out-islands, to render the endeavours of the inhabitants successful, who now painfully feel the difficulties that surround them, in every effort they make towards agriculture, which efforts, if encouraged, would soon develop the many and great resources of these favoured islands.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Thos. C. Harvey, C.E.

The Hon. C. R. Nesbitt,
&c. &c.

TURKS ISLANDS.

TURKS ISLANDS.

No. 10.

No. 10.

Copy of a DESPATCH from President Inglis to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 2.)

Government House, Grand Turk,
June 6, 1856.
(Received July 18, 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you, that in consequence of the great delay experienced in the completion of the Blue Books of this Colony, and with reference to your communication on the subject to Sir Henry Barkly, "Turks Islands, No. 16," of 16th April 1856, I have thought it advisable to transmit duplicate Blue Books, for the years 1854 and 1855, direct to the Colonial Office, along with a copy of my Report of 20th May last, addressed to Sir Henry Barkly; and I have this day advised Major General Bell, Lieutenant Governor, now administering the Government of Jamaica, of my having done so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. R. INGLIS,
President.

Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 10.

Enclosure in No. 10.

(No. 17.)

Government House, Grand Turk,
May 20, 1856.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the Blue Books for the years 1854 and 1855.

2. The Colonial Secretary has found some difficulty in obtaining the necessary returns from the Government Officers, which I have reason to believe will for the future be obviated.

3. The increase of duties which has devolved on the Receiver General, owing to his appointment in 1854 as Comptroller of Navigation Laws, without any additional assistance being granted him in his office, has been the means of increasing this difficulty, to which subject I shall have the honour of calling your Excellency's attention in another Despatch.

Exports, Imports, Revenue, and Expenditure.

4. The following statements, embracing the years 1853, 1854, and 1855, show:—

1st. The quantity of salt exported, and its value on the spot; the declared value of other exports, consisting principally of imported goods warehoused for exportation; the total value of exports, and the amount of shipping outwards:

2d. The declared value of imports, and the amount of shipping inwards: and,

3d. The revenue and expenditure from the Colonial Treasury and the Crown funds during the above-mentioned period.

1st. Statement of the Quantity and Value of Salt Exported; the Value of other Exports; and the Amount of Shipping Outwards, during the years 1853, 1854, and 1855.

Years.	Imperial Bushels of Salt.	Value at Turks Islands.	Declared Value of other Exports.	Total Value of Exports.	Shipping Outwards.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1853	827,808	24,132 19 0	6,426 12 7	30,559 11 7	31,594 Tons.
1854	1,021,900	51,375 16 3	3,442 3 7	54,817 19 10	36,676 „
1855	391,584	22,964 10 8	5,317 16 11	28,282 7 7	19,834 „

2d. Statement of the Value of Imports, and Amount of Shipping Inwards, during the years 1853, 1854, and 1855.

Years.	Value of Imports.	Shipping Inwards.
	£ s. d.	
1853	32,478 15 10	33,552 Tons.
1854	34,263 7 8	39,254 „
1855	39,698 15 8	20,814 „

3d. Statement of the Revenue and Expenditure from the Colonial Treasury and the Crown Funds during the years 1853, 1854, and 1855.

Colonial Revenue.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Receipts in 1853	5,897 13 9½	
Balance from previous years	804 16 1¼	
Total receipts in 1853		6,702 9 10¾
Expenditure in 1853	6,107 0 1¾	
Supplementary Expenditure for 1853 paid the following year	368 3 7	
Total expenditure for 1853		6,475 3 8¾
Receipts in 1854	6,802 19 4	
Balance from previous year	227 6 2	
Total receipts in 1854		7,030 5 6
Total expenditure in 1854		5,496 15 2¼
Receipts in 1855	5,874 16 9	
Balance from previous year	1,533 10 3¾	
Total receipts in 1855		7,408 7 0¾
Total expenditure in 1855		6,301 5 1¾

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Crown Funds.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Receipts in 1853	3,564	5	7			
Balance from previous year	695	18	11¾			
Total receipts in 1853				4,260	4	6¼
Expenditure in 1853				3,796	13	11
Receipts in 1854	3,642	0	2½			
Balance from previous year	463	10	7¾			
Total receipts in 1854				4,105	10	10¼
Expenditure in 1854				3,923	8	3¼
Receipts in 1855	3,628	13	7			
Balance from previous year	182	2	7			
Total receipts in 1855				3,810	16	2
Expenditure in 1855				3,381	9	6¼

5. Salt is the only staple commodity produced in these islands; other products, such as sponge, braziletto, whale oil, &c. being in very limited quantity.

6. Other exports consist of wrecked property, generally exported to the United States, and imported provisions, warehoused for exportation to Saint Domingo, and other neighbouring islands.

7. Imports consist chiefly of articles of clothing, provisions, ardent spirits, and cotton goods, in quantities to some extent depending on the issue, prosperous or otherwise, of the preceding salt season.

8. A revised tariff, by Ordinance No. 2. of 1855, came into operation at the beginning of the present year, when the former tariff, which commenced in 1850, expired. The two principal reductions under the revised tariff are, "fish dried and salted" and "refined sugar;" the duties on both of which are reduced about one half, and now stand at 1*s.* per 100lbs. for fish dried and salted, and 8*s.* 4*d.* per 100lbs. for refined sugar. There is a slight increase of duty on rum, which it can well bear.

9. On taking over this Government in 1854, I found, that although the Receiver General's statement of receipts and expenditure for 1853 showed a surplus in the Treasury amounting to 595*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*, the actual surplus available for 1854 amounted only to 227*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*, owing to unforeseen contingent expenses incurred in 1853, which had to be provided for by a supplementary appropriation in 1854.

10. At the close of 1854, a prosperous year, there was a balance in the Treasury amounting to 1,533*l.* 10*s.* 3¾*d.*

11. The year 1855 was an unfortunate one, not more than a third of the average quantity of salt having been produced, together with an increased expenditure.

12. In my address to the Legislative Council, at the commencement of the present session, I mentioned, that although a deficient revenue in 1855 was the natural consequence, both directly by the diminished amount of export duty and indirectly from the natural anticipation on the part of importers of the inability of consumers to purchase more than the ordinary necessaries of life, the deficit in the revenue, though considerable, was somewhat less than might have been expected; the declared value of imports in 1855 being actually greater by nearly 6,000*l.* than in the previous year, though the amount of duties levied was less, owing to a large proportion of the imports being English dry goods, which, in common with similar goods of foreign manufacture, are subject to a comparatively small ad valorem duty.

13. The Receiver General's schedule of receipts and expenditure for the year ending 31st December 1855, in comparison with the year 1854, showed a—

	£	s.	d.
Decrease of import duties in 1855, of - - -	235	10	0
A decrease in export duties, of - - - -	656	11	7
And in other sources of revenue, of - - -	36	1	0
Giving a total deficit in the income of 1855, as compared with 1854, of - - - -	£928	2	7

14. It also showed an increased expenditure in 1855, over 1854, of 436*l.* 6*s.* 4½*d.*, more than accounted for by the fact of 1855 having had to bear, not only the expenses contingent on the visitation of cholera at the latter end of 1854, amounting to 370*l.* 18*s.* 8½*d.*, but also the expense of maintaining the lighthouse, amounting to 301*l.* 4*s.*, giving a total of 672*l.* 2*s.* 8½*d.* for two items of charges, the first happily never before required, and the second never before defrayed from the Colonial Treasury, which has had the benefit of the income derived from the lighthouse since its completion in 1852, while the expense of maintaining it has been borne by the Crown funds, having thus made the resources of the Colonial Treasury appear greater than they legitimately were, at the expense of the Crown funds of the colony.

15. The actual increase of expenditure over income in 1855 amounted to 426*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, which was met by means of the surplus revenue, and has reduced that useful fund to 1,107*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*, with which amount in the Treasury we commenced the present year.

Public Debt.

16. The following is a schedule of the public debt of the colony, for the liquidation of which an amount was raised by means of debentures:—

Proportion of public debt of the Bahamas assigned to this Government on the separation, chargeable from the 25th December 1848 with interest at 5 per cent. per annum -	£ 8,000	s. 0	d. 0
Annual balances of interest to the 31st December 1853 -	933	10	4
	£8,933	10	4

Payment.

By remittances made to the Bahama Government to 31st December 1853 - - - - -	8,942	15	2
Balance due by Bahama Government - - -	£ 9	4	10

Of the above payments the amount of 1,838*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* was raised within the colony, and is its actual debt still due, and bearing interest at 5 per cent. per annum.

Crown Funds.

17. During the years 1853, 1854, and 1855 the total receipts from Her Majesty's Crown funds, inclusive of a balance of 695*l.* 18*s.* 11¾*d.* from 1852, have amounted to 11,530*l.* 18*s.* 4¼*d.*, which has been expended under the following heads:—

	£	s.	d.
Government works in connexion with salt ponds -	2,083	9	5
Ditto, ditto, not in connexion with salt ponds -	544	15	6¼
Lighthouse - - - - -	655	19	4¾
Military - - - -	181	15	6½
Surveys - - - - -	17	0	8¼
Parochial department - - - -	1,044	2	11¼
Government schools - - -	513	6	7¼
Hired buildings - - - -	709	7	6
Salaries and allowances - - -	2,505	18	0¼
Miscellaneous connected with salt ponds -	433	10	9¼
Ditto, unconnected with ditto - - -	2,412	5	3¾
	11,101	11	8½
Balance at the close of 1855 - - - -	429	6	7¾
	£11,580	18	4¼

TURKS ISLANDS.
Sub. Encl. No. 1.
Sub. Encl. No. 2.

On this subject I have the honour to transmit two Reports from the Crown Commissioner, dated respectively 16th March 1855 and 9th May 1856, entering into details on the state of the canals, roads, public buildings, and expenditure generally from these funds.

Education.—Government Schools.

18. An annual sum of 600*l.*, exclusive of scholars' fees, is expended in maintaining the Government schools of the colony. Of this amount 450*l.* is contributed from the general revenue, and 150*l.* from Her Majesty's Crown funds.

19. A Report, dated 15th March 1856, from Mr. Ockenden, head master and inspector, accompanied by a Return for 1855, gives the following favourable view of the progress of education during the year:—"From the return "accompanying the Report," says Mr. Ockenden, "it appears that the total "number of children under instruction in the Government schools during "the past year was 512, showing an increase of 67 over the preceding year. "The total amount of fees received as weekly payments from the scholars "in 1854 fell rather short of 37*l.*, but in 1855 the sum exceeded 70*l.*"

20. The population of these islands being estimated at 3,250, of whom about 900 are children of ten years of age and under, the proportion receiving education at the hands of the Government is probably not exceeded in any other colony.

Private Schools.

21. In addition to the Government schools there are four private schools, three for boys and one for girls, here and at Salt Cay, which, though not numerically large, are kept in an efficient manner by their respective masters and mistresses.

Schools in connexion with Religious Establishments.

22. There are also nine sabbath schools throughout the colony, in connexion with the different religious establishments, one belonging to the Established Church, two to the Wesleyan Methodists, and six to the Baptist denomination, at which 648 children receive some scriptural instruction.

Salt Ponds.

23. The statement in the Blue Book with regard to the extent of the area of the salt ponds under cultivation has been taken from old records, and is somewhat conjectural; no accurate survey having ever been taken, except of such salinas as have been reclaimed since the separation of this colony from the Bahamas.

24. A statement of the average quantity of salt, obtained from tolerably accurate data, produced in these islands during the last forty-eight years, is a refutation of the charge of the resources of this colony remaining undeveloped, frequently made by parties who, while endeavouring to promote their own views, apparently laudable in themselves, are however sufficiently unscrupulous to use the above argument, without due inquiry into its truth.

25. The following statement shows the average produce of salt during terms of years from 1808 to 1855, both inclusive:—

Terms of Years.	Average Salt crops. Imperial bushels.
1808 to 1817 inclusive, ten years	306,563
1818 to 1827 do.	641,342
1828 to 1845 do. eighteen years	723,900
1846 to 1855 do. ten years	972,682

26. During the first period, viz., from 1808 to 1817, two circumstances militated against a large product; one of these was the war with America, the principal customer of these islands; the other, the fact of two hurricanes taking place in 1813 and 1815, during which it is probable that the salt ponds suffered, and that their produce was partially destroyed.

27. It may therefore be true, that the first period in the above table does not give a fair average of a term of ten years. Taking, however, the next term,

from 1818 to 1827, as a starting point, we find during the following term of eighteen years a certain but slow increase; but the most marked increase takes place in the last term, during which time the ponds have been principally held under the new leasehold tenure, which commenced in 1845, when we find the average salt crop to be nearly 250,000 bushels per annum greater than during the previous eighteen years. Part of this increase is to be attributed to the cultivation of new salinas, as well as to the larger expenditure on the salt ponds generally, both by the Crown and the leaseholders.

28. Since the year 1848 there have been upwards of 150 acres of new salina ground brought under cultivation, fifty acres of which, at East Harbour Caicos, were only commenced last year, and must be the means, in process of time, of materially increasing the annual salt crop of these islands.

29. The colony is doubtless susceptible, under certain circumstances, of much greater development. The supply of labour, however, is, even under the present limited cultivation, inadequate to the demand during a prosperous season; more especially since 1854, when the cholera carried off some of the best labourers at Salt Cay; and there seems but little disposition on the part of capitalists to commence new enterprises of any great extent, which would involve the necessity of their taking measures to increase the labour market.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. R. INGLIS,
President.

Sub-Enclosure 1. to Enclosure 1. in No. 10.

Crown Commissioner's Office, Grand Turk,
May 9, 1856.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit my Report on the Public Works, &c. under the supervision of this department for the information of his Honour the President.

Canals.

Hawes' Salina Canal has been unfortunately found unequal to yield a sufficient quantity of sea water for the purposes of manufacturing salt. To remedy this, an amount of 63*l.* 5*s.* 1¾*d.* was expended in the extension of the canal further into the sea, to enable the erection of a powerful machine to force the water up to the salina.

A machine was planted at a cost of 81*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*, but in consequence of the length of the canal (a distance of upwards of 1,400 yards) it was ultimately proved that another machine of smaller size would be required—about the centre of the canal—to warrant a full supply, and which has been provided for partially by the Government and partially by the lessees.

In consequence of the diseased state of the reservoir to the Town Pond at Salt Cay, a sum of 50*l.* was granted in aid of cleansing the same, and which has, so far, proved beneficial. A further outlay will be required to finally accomplish the object.

There has also been a machine supplied to the lessees of the Town Pond at Grand Turk to force the pickle from the main reservoir amongst the several allotments or pans. This machine, I am glad to say, has realized the expectations of the lessees.

Buildings.

In my Report on this subject for 1854 I had the honour to remark on a most desirable work pointed out by his Honour President Inglis,—that of constructing piers or jetties into the sea to protect the western side of the town.

Two of these jetties have been constructed at a cost of 109*l.* 18*s.* 0½*d.*, and which have proved of the most infinite service. I would here observe that more of the like construction in other parts of the town are needed, and would, doubtless, prove equally useful, if carried out.

A most desirable site for the erection of a Government House has been selected, and an outlay of 36*l.* 18*s.* 0¼*d.* has been caused in the clearing up of the ground, and collecting material for enclosing the same.

This amount was expended from the fund estimated for in the general estimates, "In aid of a Government House."

In consequence of the very limited accommodation for the lighthouse keepers, it was deemed advisable to make some temporary addition to the house used for the purpose at a cost of 29*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*

As the rules of the lighthouse require that one of the keepers must always be on the place, I think it would be desirable to erect a sufficient residence so soon as the funds will admit of such an outlay. The present building may be very usefully converted into

TURKS ISLANDS.

a deputy assistant's dwelling; that person now occupies a part of the storeroom, which I conceive objectionable.

The public buildings rented by this department are the same as enumerated in my Report for 1854, at a rental of 225*l.* per annum.

Sanitary Measures.

In consequence of that direful disease, cholera, having broken out in these islands, it was desirable that every precaution be used to check, as far as possible, its spreading, thereby causing an amount of 117*l.* 6*s.* 7½*d.* to be expended in filling up swamps, draining off fresh water from the land, &c., &c.

Roads.

The only road of importance which underwent thorough repair was a part of Victoria Street, Salt Cay, at a cost of 198*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* In rainy weather this road was partially under water and impassable, consequently required to be raised considerably.

The length of the road so repaired was 1,015 yards long and 7 yards wide, raised with large stones 13 inches, covered on the top with broken metal about 2 inches in thickness.

The roads at Grand Turk were principally kept up by convict labour.

Surveys.

The expenditure for surveys, amounting to 6*l.* 11*s.* 9¼*d.*, was for the laying out of building lots, principally for the labouring population here and at Cockburn Harbour. The receipts for the same amount to 73*l.* 7*s.* 10¾*d.* More receipts were due, but, owing to the bad salt season and scarcity of labour, many of the purchasers were unable to meet their several payments. Under these circumstances, his Honour James Misick, Esquire, whilst administering the Government, was pleased to allow them more time.

Miscellaneous.

The expenditure under this head comprises the unforeseen exigencies of the Government, as also the promiscuous repairs to the several public buildings under the supervision of this department, supplies of corn, &c., for labourers employed, paints, oil, stationery, &c., &c., and which amounts to 901*l.* 11*s.* 1¼*d.*; from this sum, however, there is an amount of about 50*l.* to the credit of the Government in the hands of Messrs. B. C. T. Gray and Sons, London, where an account current is kept.

The amount of 901*l.* 11*s.* 1¼*d.* exceeds the general average of miscellaneous payments, and is accounted for by the disbursement of the following sums not anticipated, viz.:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Paid John L. Nelson	27	12	0
„ R. J. Darrell, for services, keeping lighthouse accounts	30	0	0
„ Charles Baker, award for balance of purchase of site for lighthouse	12	10	0
„ George Gibbs, award for damages sustained by the removal of a wall at Well Hill	22	19	4½
„ In aid of public library, residue of grant in 1851	30	0	0
„ Medicines during prevalence of cholera	61	3	1
	184	4	5½
There are also two amounts as loans since refunded, viz.:			
Advanced to Inspector, &c. of Public Schools	80	0	0
„ for militia service, since refunded	5	5	6
	269	9	11½
Leaving a balance for the ordinary service of	632	1	1¼
	£901	11	1¾

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. GRAHAM,
Crown Commissioner.

Sub-Enclosure 2. to Enclosure 1. in No. 10.

Crown Commissioner's Office, Grand Turk,
March 16, 1855.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit my Report on Public Works, &c. under the charge of this department during the year 1854, for the information of his Honour the President.

Canals.

These canals are used for the admission of sea water to the salinas, and require annual expenditure, owing to the great accumulation of sand which gathers at the mouth, together with the heavy surfs which partially damage the retaining walls.

I think much expense might ultimately be saved if the retaining walls of the Town Pond Canal, Grand Turk, were extended a little farther out to sea, and a floodgate erected. This would entirely prevent the mass of sand from accumulating at the mouth of the canal.

The above remarks will also apply to the Town Pond Canal at Salt Cay.

The cost of opening these canals averages about 30*l.* per annum.

Buildings.

An amount of 132*l.* 9*s.* 2¾*d.* has been expended in collecting and squaring stones, with the intention of commencing a market house, but a work of much greater importance having been pointed out by his Honour President Inglis, with a view of preventing the encroachment of the sea on the western shore of this island, the stones were subsequently used for that purpose.

Mathew Tank, which is Crown property, has undergone thorough repairs at an expense of 31*l.* 15*s.*

This expense was caused by the unsatisfactory manner in which the tank had evidently been cemented, the material used being of a very inferior quality, consequently causing a great leakage.

I have used my best endeavours with the means at my disposal to remedy this evil, and, so far as I have had an opportunity of testing, I am happy to say the work has been very satisfactory, and trust that the means used will prove effectual.

This is a most desirable building to be kept up, as a great scarcity of water is almost annually experienced, more especially amongst the poorer population.

The parish church has been thoroughly painted, and the walls enclosing the burial ground repaired, at a cost of 53*l.* 11*s.* 2¾*d.*

I think there is a great necessity for the erection of a vestry room, there being no place for a robing or retiring room for the clergyman.

Government house, at an annual rental of 150*l.*, a military barrack, at an annual rental of 85*l.*, kept in repair at the expense of the Government, and an office for my department, at an annual rental of 20*l.*, making together 255*l.* paid for hired buildings. I conceive the above rents to be at an exorbitant rate, and cannot but concur with the views of the President, as conveyed in his Honour's opening address to the Legislature of the 23d January, that one of the most important works this department could turn its attention to is the erection of Government buildings, more especially a Government house and public offices.

A sum of 500*l.* is estimated from the Crown funds for 1855 towards the erection of a Government house. 300*l.* of this amount was subsequently held in reserve "in aid of military barracks," in the event of the colony being at half the cost of an iron barrack, as suggested by the late President; but should this project not be carried out, it is proposed to commence a "reserved building fund" with the above amounts, to be augmented by such sums as may from time to time be set apart for building purposes.

Sanitary Measures.

Owing to the unhealthy miasma arising from swamps to the north of Grand Turk, a sum of 51*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* has been expended in filling up the grounds, and which, I hope, will prove effectual. The most effectual means, combined with economy, have been applied to this measure.

Roads.

I am happy to be able to state that the roads in this colony are, with few exceptions, in a tolerable good state of repair. The expense incurred at Grand Turk during the year 1854, which amounts to 188*l.* 14*s.* 4½*d.*, was principally in raising the south part of Salina Street,—a main road, which was a complete swamp during rainy weather. The length of road raised is about 215 yards long, and 7 yards wide; raised, on an average, 8 inches with hard stone, covered on the top with broken metal 2 inches thick. An annual expenditure is required on the roads.

Lighthouse.

The only work at the lighthouse which came under my direction in 1854 was the fixing of lightning conductors, the expense of which was 3*l.* 3*s.* 0¼*d.*; but for the secure completion it will be necessary to have stone tanks constructed in lieu of the wooden ones which have been temporarily placed for the reception of the chain leading from the conductors.

The expense of keeping up the department, and the supplying of materials, have been defrayed from the Crown funds up to the end of 1854, but are for the future to be disbursed from the general revenue, by order of his Honour the President.

TURKS ISLANDS.

Military.

The unusually large expenditure, under this head, was caused by the necessity of placing the colony in a more defensive position, it being considered necessary to renew some gun carriages, and erect platforms for cannon, sent here from Jamaica, which works were performed in as substantial and economical a manner as circumstances would permit.

Surveys.

The receipts for land sales amount to 49*l.* 7*s.* 8½*d.* for the year; and the expenditure, under this head, 1*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* for attendance, &c. on surveyor, when laying out the different lots of land.

Public Schools.

There is a sum of 150*l.* annually estimated from the Crown funds in aid of the maintenance of the department, the expenditure of which does not come under my supervision.

Miscellaneous.

The expenditure, under this head, amounts to 1,086*l.* 15*s.* 0½*d.*, and is comprised of the promiscuous expenses incurred in miscellaneous repairs, and the means by which the unforeseen exigencies of the Government are liquidated.

The large expenditure for the year 1854 is accounted for by the following extraordinary payments, viz.:—

	£	s.	d.
For the purchase of furniture for Government house - -	210	8	0
One moiety of salary to Acting Stipendiary Justice - -	91	8	1½
Retaining fee to Queen's Advocate undertaking case of Acting Police Magistrate Stamers - - - -	22	1	0
Hire of a vessel to carry mails to and from St. Thomas -	56	11	5
Professional services of Colonial Physician attending sick at the Caicos - - - - - -	14	17	11
Travelling expenses of late Crown Commissioner - -	38	15	0
Ditto ditto of his Honour President Inglis - - -	20	16	8
Purchase of horse for the use of this department - -	25	0	0
	£479	18	1½

Leaving a balance of 606*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.*, which is about the average of the annual miscellaneous expenditure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. Graham, C. C.

TRINIDAD.

TRINIDAD.

No. 11.

No. 11.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Charles Elliot to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 71.)

Trinidad, August 20, 1856.

Sir, (Received Sept. 15, 1856.)

I have the honour to forward the "Blue Book" of this colony for the year 1855.

The revenue for the year 1855, from all sources, applicable to the general purposes of the Government, exclusive of the revenue applicable to immigration service, amounted to 72,323*l.*, of which 53,608*l.* arises from the duties on customs, tonnage, wharfage, warehouse dues, and seizures, &c. In the estimates for 1855, founded upon the estimates of 1854, we assumed the revenue from these sources at 58,000*l.* Notwithstanding a considerable improvement in the trade of the colony during the first four months of 1855, the whole revenue from these last-mentioned sources fell short of the estimated amount 4,392*l.* The total expenditure of 1855 (exclusive of immigration) amounted to 80,657*l.*, leaving on the whole year a deficiency of 8,334*l.* Of this deficiency, however, it is to be noticed that the sum of 4,000*l.* arose from the expense of cholera during the autumn of 1854, and, being an extraordinary charge, it may be

deducted from the foregoing mentioned deficiency of 8,334*l.*, leaving the actual deficit 4,334*l.*

The expenditure in the year 1854 under the head of "Establishments" amounted to 51,744*l.* In 1855 it amounted to 46,081*l.*

The total expenses of the colony in 1854 amounted to 99,743*l.*, against, in 1855, of 80,657*l.*

This exposition will, I trust, satisfy you that no effort has been spared on my part to reduce the expenditure of the colony; but I felt it my duty, for the reasons stated in my Despatch, No. 91, 1855, to move the Council to make provision in the estimates for 1856 for balancing the income with the expenditure. That recommendation was adopted, on the report of a Committee of Council, to whom the subject was referred; and I have satisfaction in being able to report that the improvement of the revenues arising from the increased imports and the operation of the small export duty imposed at the close of 1855 has been attended with advantageous results. The income for the first six months of 1855, from all sources, applicable to the general purposes of the Government, amounted to 37,244*l.*; for the same period in 1856, 48,005*l.* When I arrived here, on the 8th March 1854, there were in the treasury 18,000*l.* On the 22d May, when I announced that Her Majesty had been graciously pleased to accept my resignation of this Government, there were in the chest about 28,000*l.*, to which may be added 8,000*l.* remitted to England on immigration account since the 1st of January 1856; so that our treasury situation on the 22d May 1856 was 18,000*l.* in excess of what it was at the commencement of my administration. I hope that this improved condition of things will be maintained.

The exports during the years 1853, 1854, and 1855 are shown in the annexed table. The crop of 1855, owing to the prevalence of heavy rains, was short; and I am afraid that the opposite cause, of severe drought, during the present crop season, may to some extent disappoint expectations which were entertained at the commencement of the year, of a very large return. The increased prices of sugar and other staples have, however, been attended with the best consequences on the trade and prospects of the colony; and I cordially hope that this favourable condition of circumstances may continue, for it is impossible to contemplate the exertions of the planting interest in this island to struggle with the long succession of difficulties and low prices without sincere sympathy. The export of our staples to the United States is a novel and advantageous feature in the trade of this colony. Till the autumn of last year, when the failure of the Louisiana crop, and indeed the short supply of sugar in all the producing regions in this part of the world, our returns to the imports from the United States were made almost entirely in cash. For the future it may, I think, be hoped that they will be sugar purchasers in these markets.

Enclosure 1.

In my report accompanying the Blue Book of 1854 I described the modifications effected in the wardens' ordinances, and I have now the pleasure to state that the good effects of these changes have been fully sustained. The improved means of administering the rural concerns of the colony, brought about by the union of convenient wards, have enabled me, with the assistance of the Colonial Secretary, to compile a valuable statistical return, copy of which I have the honour to annex to this report. I may also add, that the principle of paying the wardens partly by a commission on the rates recovered by them, without recourse to sales of properties by decree of the Court of Intendant, has encouraged that systematic attention to the interests of the smaller classes of property holders which I had hoped for. The wardens, with their whole time at the disposal of the public, and with their interest and reputation as public officers involved in the prompt collection of the revenue, have naturally given constant and steady regard to the situation of the smaller ratepayers; and I think that in the course of the year 1856 the business of the Court of Intendant will be diminished by nearly two thirds, compared with what it was three years since.

Enclosure 2.

The road concerns of the colony are also much more satisfactorily managed than they have ever yet been, and upon the whole I cannot but congratulate the colony upon the satisfactory results of the changes introduced into this interesting body of law. The merit and the importance of the principle rest entirely with my predecessor, and I am persuaded if he had remained here that

TRINIDAD.

he would have carried out improvement in the details with better ability than I can pretend to have done.

Between the date of my report for the year 1854 (No. 50. of 1855) and the present date I have succeeded in transporting to Port of Spain from the Crown forests (worked for the first time on an extended scale since this colony has formed part of the empire) 24,500 cubic feet of hard wood of different descrip tions, in logs of greater length and square than had ever been previously laid down on the wharves of this town. The total expense of these operations (including the cost of an efficient steam saw-mill imported from the United States), of a substantial shed for the machinery in Port of Spain, and of working the mill, to the end of June last, amounts to $35,000, the cost of the mill and shed having been rather less than half of the sum of $35,000, *i. e.* $16,000.

At the prices paid out of our treasury for hard wood for the public service during the seven years preceding the commencement of operations in our own forest (1854), this amount of 25,800 cubic feet of hard timber would have cost the colony $37,000, *i. e.*, $1 50 per cubic foot. Assuming, however, that it could have been procured at $1 per cubic foot, *i. e.* $25,000, there would still have to be computed the large saving effected by sawing up by machinery, instead of by the slow and expensive process of manual labour. For example, since the saw-mill was set into operation, on the 1st Nov. 1855, there have passed through it for the public works about 16,000 cubic feet of timber, which at the old prices would have cost at least $8,000. So that even at the rate of $1 per cubic foot an amount of 25,000 cubic feet of timber, when worked up into scantling, would be worth $33,000, *i. e.*, about $2,000 less than has been charged to the colonial treasury for all the timber brought to Port of Spain, and all expenses whatever, both for the mill and shed, and for working, to the end of June last.

It will have been noticed in my despatches on this subject, that it has always appeared to me to be a very weighty consideration connected with the opening out of our Crown forest lands in this colony, and of procuring effective machinery for working up the timber promptly and economically, that this island possesses the only safe harbour throughout these parts of the empire for the establishment of the Sectional Floating Dock. Easy and economical means of examining and repairing the bottoms of a great steam military and mail service is a requirement, the want of which, in this part of the world, may at any sudden moment be most seriously felt; and, speaking as a professional man, and with a long and extensive experience in the West Indies, I think myself well warranted in saying,—

1st. That no means are so suitable for such a purpose in the West Indies, in every point of view, as the Sectional Floating Dock; and,

2dly. That no point in the West Indies is so eligible for the establishment of such means as Chaguaramas Harbour in this colony.

When the contract was renewed with the West India Packet Company, I have always thought it was to be regretted that they were not required to maintain a bi-monthly communication in a screw-propeller of a convenient size, so as to carry some amount of cargo between this colony and Porto Cabello, touching at La Guayra, and by powerful light draught paddle-vessels from hence up the Orinoco, in the first place as high as Angostura, and gradually, as encouragement offered, still higher. That such a line would not have paid at first is of course most probable, but that it would do so eventually can scarcely be doubted. It is important to the commercial interests of the empire that we should avail ourselves of the favourable position of this island for taking our part in the steam navigation of this mighty highway into the neighbouring regions of the South American continent. If that enterprise offers sufficient encouragement to spirited and far-seeing merchants settled in the United States, it should surely do so, under proper management, from this advantageously situated depôt for such a trade and for the repairs of vessels engaged in it. This subject is well worthy of steady pursuit by all parties engaged in the trade and steam navigation of these regions.

In the course of the twenty-seven months of my administration of this colony the following public works have been completed or are in progress:—

1st. About half of the reservoir works at Maraval for the water supply of Port of Spain. (Done.)

2d. St. Vincent Wharf completed to the extent originally intended, that is from 300 to 600 feet.

3d. The new wash-house, complete.

4th. Colonial hospital will be ready, accidents apart, by the end of this year. This was a work of urgent necessity, and it is material to consider that when it is complete the debt of the colony will be reduced by 10,000*l.*, because the colonial treasury is liable to that extent for this service on account of old legacy duty.

5. The underground drainage of the new wash-house, colonial hospital, and Royal gaol in advanced progress, and will be complete, accidents apart, before the end of the current year. When the efficacy of this system is established, I trust it will become general throughout the town, for assuredly nothing can be more necessary to the health of the population than the underground drainage of this swamp of impurities.

6. Lunatic asylum. A large part of the materials for this building are already collected in Port of Spain.

I annex reports by the acting inspector of schools and the keeper of the Royal gaol. The first would show that the attendance in the schools is on the increase, and the last tends to prove that the burden of our gaol and police expenses is chiefly attributable to our position as a mixed population-importing colony. The small proportion of commitments to gaol of natives is a subject of satisfactory reflection.

Blue Book, p. 234.
Blue Book, p. 297.

Considering that more than one half of the period since I have been here was one of great depression, and that we were visited by a formidable and chargeable epidemic in the course of it, I can only hope that this exhibition of what has been accomplished in the course of the last two years will, on the whole, not be deemed unsatisfactory. At all events it is gratifying to me to be able to report that I leave the finance of the colony in a fairly healthy condition; and I doubt not that those who are to follow me will do more than I have been able to accomplish towards making this town, with its excellent harbour facilities, what it has every capacity to be, that is, the metropolis of this part of the West Indies. It needs only the combined exertions of spirited and enlightened general and local administration to ensure for it that position within no long lapse of time.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES ELLIOT.

Enclosure 1. in No. 11.

EXPORTS during the Years 1853, 1854, and 1855.

Produce.	1853.		1854.		1855.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Cocoa - -	4,904,719 lbs.	42,690	3,379,157 lbs.	41,277	4,547,060 lbs.	56,889
Coffee -	64,849 „	1,393	58,934 „	1,181	49,682 „	1,014
Cotton -	16 bales 546 seroons	836	397 bales 20 seroons	749	82 bales 302 seroons	786
Molasses -	1,201,019 galls.	34,563	782,401 galls.	15,324	415,762 galls.	11,836
Rum - -	99,834 galls.	10,995	285,446 „	29,291	317,872 „	27,390
Sugar - -	48,020,613 lbs.	349,557	50,055,998 lbs.	389,319	43,424,076 lbs.	285,419
	U. S. none.		U. S. 167,500 lbs.		U.S. 900,830 lbs.	
Sundries -	—	6,043	—	3,732	—	4,674

Exported to United States from 1st January to 16th June 1856,—5,949,350 lbs. Sugar.

Enclosure 2. in No. 11.

STATISTICAL RETURN of the Ward Unions of the Colony of Trinidad, exhibiting also the Revenue and Expenditure of the several Wards, and the Balances standing to their Credit or Debit on the 1st January 1856.

WARD UNIONS.	Population.	No. of Ratepayers.	No. of Acres in Cultivation in Ward, in: Canes.	Cocoa, Coffee, Cotton.	Provisions.	Pasture.	Uncultivated.	Total No. of Acres.	No. of Houses.	Valuations of Lands.	Annual Rent or Value of Houses.	Rate Assessed. On Lands.	Rate Assessed. On Houses.	Rate for 1855.	Revenue. Balances 1st January to Cr. or Dr. of Wards.	Ward Rates collected in 1855, with Arrears of former Years.	Spirit Licences.	Wood Licences.	Miscellaneous Receipts.	Total Receipts.
ARIMA WARD UNION.																				
Arima	1,707	455	50	1,484	235	133	8,893	10,795	290	*Dls. c.* 115,872 80	*Dls. c.* 7,444 60	*Dls. c.* 2,896 82	*Dls. c.* 558 34	*Dls. c.* 3,455 16	Cr. *Dls. c.* 413 84	*Dls. c.* 3,937 16½	*Dls. c.* 1,050 0	*Dls. c.* —	*Dls. c.* —	*Dls. c.* 5,401 0½
Guanapo	454	112	37	703	60	28	5,752	6,580	45	55,623 20	546 50	1,390 58	40 98	1,431 56	„ 159 28	1,782 33	—	—	—	1,941 61
Upper Caroni	421	92	—	468	55	—	1,086	1,609	60	28,341 60	1,440 0	708 0	108 0	816 0	„ 284 36	874 29½	210 0	—	—	1,368 65½
Manzanilla	257	84	—	15	142	—	1,635	1,792	84	11,460 0	1,188 0	286 50	89 10	375 60	Dr. 20 47	239 41	—	—	—	239 41
Tourure	467	168	—	439	63	1	3,901	4,404	100	34,309 20	373 70	857 73	28 2	885 75	Cr. 166 84	908 53½	210 0	—	—	1,285 37½
CEDROS WARD UNION.																				
Cedros	2,352	96	1,912	—	187	367	5,311	7,777	89	131,114 40	5,672 26	3,276 86	425 41	3,702 27	Cr. 2,721 16	4,936 22	990 80	60 60	53 46	8,762 24
La Brea	806	196	382	—	146	168	9,612	10,288	151	55,526 80	5,880 67	1,387 93	437 29	1,825 22	„ 1,025 9	1,924 69	730 0	22 50	10 8	3,712 36
COUVA WARD UNION.																				
Chaguanas	1,217	32	1,014	118	34	211	6,227	7,604	26	81,038 40	3,144 0	1,012 98	125 76	1,138 74	Cr. 872 56	1,314 54	1,170 0	33 0	634 77	4,024 87
Carapichaima	776	141	321	52	91	96	5,426	5,986	151	39,799 20	4,494 0	992 98	337 5	1,330 3	„ 601 21	1,516 89	330 0	10 0	—	2,458 10
Couva	2,179	343	1,220	349	391	250	5,774	7,984	298	119,937 60	14,371 80	2,998 44	1,077 82	4,076 26	„ 1,462 18	4,100 67	1,200 0	9 0	-	6,771 85
Savonetta	2,030	226	1,821	53	369	745	6,773	9,761	216	159,979 20	12,049 20	3,992 70	903 69	4,896 39	„ 1,498 9	4,906 83	1,350 0	9 0	-	7,763 92
Pointe-a-Pierre	1,563	309	833	55	402	95	5,938	7,323	331	80,731 20	13,958 40	2,018 28	1,046 88	3,065 16	„ 52 32	2,888 78	720 0	9 0	-	3,670 10
DIEGO MARTIN WARD UNION.																				
Diego Martin	1,733	260	680	226	193	243	6,048	7,390	309	78,931 20	8,407 60	1,973 28	630 57	2,603 85	Dr. 1,081 37	2,921 1	450 0	—	*1,000 0	4,371 1
Maraval	1,049	245	83	403	174	138	4,031	4,829	188	47,978 40	5,269 46	1,199 46	395 21	1,594 67	„ 53 7	1,849 40	240 0	—	—	2,089 40
Mucurapo	937	106	370	2	52	130	773	1,327	108	28,447 20	6,444 0	592 66	322 20	914 86	Cr. 1,281 65	899 99	390 0	—	—	2,571 64
Carenage	1,106	250	206	18	165	50	1,519	4,958	225	31,917 60	4,816 40	797 94	361 23	1,159 17	„ 372 20	1,234 10	360 0	—	—	1,966 30
Chaguaramas	681	146	2	—	156	—	3,212	3,370	114	15,393 60	2,579 60	384 84	193 47	578 31	Dr. 219 20	820 26	—	—	—	820 26
MAYARO WARD.																				
Mayaro	985	164	129	—	289	23	9,146	9,587	161	43,118 40	4,481 70	1,077 93	337 5	1,414 98	Cr. 463 8	1,152 31	240 0	—	—	1,855 39
Nariva	194	32	—	5	239	20	872	1,136	26	14,764 80	654 0	369 12	49 5	418 17	„ 655 84	247 0	120 0	—	—	1,022 84
NORTH NAPARIMA WARD UNION.																				
North Naparima	2,191	233	3,740	—	68	406	2,082	6,296	238	210,362 40	14,896 20	5,259 6	1,117 21	6,376 27	Cr. 1,773 47	6,350 86	1,560 0	—	38 45	9,731 78
Savanna Grande North	1,076	187	2,168	9	277	148	5,337	7,939	156	138,441 60	4,815 60	3,461 4	361 17	3,822 21	„ 958 36	4,112 56	420 0	50 0	46 99	5,587 91
Savanna Grande South	2,730	428	1,199	20	654	143	3,736	5,752	528	105,734 40	9,240 0	2,643 36	693 0	3,336 36	„ 1,483 77	3,632 36	780 0	109 75	44 54	6,050 42
SOUTH NAPARIMA WARD UNION.																				
South Naparima East	2,186	106	3,266	20	245	342	5,945	9,818	123	199,855 20	6,787 20	4,996 38	509 4	5,505 42	Cr. 330 75	5,611 32	750 0	—	2 40	7,294 47
South Naparima West	3,317	92	3,450	10	191	531	3,789	7,971	137	210,499 20	8,518 80	5,262 48	638 90	5,901 38	77 39	5,901 46	780 0	42 30	—	6,801 15
Oropouche	1,133	210	954	4	110	226	3,749	5,043	171	12,940 0	5,864 0	1,777 74	439 80	2,217 54	492 33	2,243 76	870 0	25 30	6 32	3,637 71
ST. ANN'S WARD UNION.																				
Aricagua	1,379	201	943	48	137	417	2,133	3,678	231	79,173 0	6,250 0	2,149 76	468 0	2 61 76	Cr. 613 72	2,815 73	450 0	—	—	3,879 45
Cimaronero	602	156	338	126	149	51	1,497	2,161	106	35,441 0	2,038 0	886 0	152 0	1,038 0	„ 667 36	1,057 29	180 0	—	—	1,904 65
Laventille	1,828	618	54	192	653	83	2,032	3,014	436	51,964 0	11,952 0	1,299 0	896 0	2,195 0	„ 325 3	2,401 56	120 0	60 0	34 48	2,941 7
St. Ann's	950	316	6	185	208	118	2,076	2,593	222	31,329 0	5,277 0	783 0	395 0	1,178 0	„ 65 60	1,331 12	240 0	—	—	1,636 72
Santa Cruz	1,905	318	59	2,007	321	103	8,954	11,444	296	2,749 0	1,650 0	3,007 23	1,237 0	4,244 23	„ 735 28	4,820 10	720 0	—	-	6,275 38
TACARIGUA WARD UNION.																				
Caura	787	157	—	969	200	30	2,114	3,313	89	62,625 60	1,055 4	1,565 64	79 12	1,644 76	Cr. 425 80	2,017 53	150 0	—	—	2,593 33
Lower Caroni	484	55	422	311	76	69	3,850	4,728	45	51,384 0	1,374 0	1,284 60	103 5	1,387 65	„ 520 80	1,388 10	150 0	—	—	2,058 90
Maraccas	1,027	225	—	1,171	290	10	6,670	8,141	145	86,616 0	2,024 16	2,165 40	151 81	2,317 21	„ 447 5	2,439 67	240 0	—	—	3,126 98
St. Joseph	843	219	1,044	87	52	286	1,608	3,077	208	74,462 40	8,034 0	1,861 56	602 55	2,464 11	„ 792 32	2,463 76	960 0	—	—	4,216 8
Tacarigua	3,788	469	2,376	418	191	855	9,984	13,824	580	208,281 60	16,046 40	2,603 52	641 85	3,245 37	„ 2,578 7	3,289 29	2,250 0	—	—	8,117 36
	47,140	7,447	29,059	9,967	7,265	6,516	160,485	213,292	6,686	2,745,843 20	208,987 99	69,220 80	15,952 62	85,173 42	26,291 17	90,339 89½	20,380 89	440 45	1,871 49	137,949 69½

* Loan.

STATISTICAL RETURN of the Ward Unions of the Colony of Trinidad, exhibiting also the Revenue and Expenditure of the several Wards, and the Balances standing to their Credit or Debit on the 1st January 1856—*continued.*

WARD UNIONS.	EXPENDITURE.																										
	Warden's Salary with Arrears of past Year.	Warden's Commission.	Ward Debt.	Road Debt.	Contribution to General Police.	Ward Constables.	Education including Rent of School Houses.	Maintenance of Paupers in Hospital.	Burial of Paupers.	Relief of Destitute.	Administration of Justice.	Inquests.	Registration of Births, Deaths, &c.	Printing and Advertising.	Building Hospitals.	Surveying.	Houses of Refuge, Dispensaries.	Purchase of Land Cemetery.	Water Works.	Medical Officer.	Allowances to Receiver General for Clerk and Stationery.	Miscellaneous.	Transfers to Roads.	Cholera Expenses.	TOTAL EXPENDITURE.	Balance to *Cr.* or *Dr.* 1st January 1856.
	Dls. c.	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*	*Dls. c.*
ARIMA WARD UNION.																										
Arima	801 70	244 40	—	160 64	345 51	182 0	364 0	11 52	33 82	—	—	27 60	95 72	70 20	—	—	120 75	—	—	—	19 20	7 67	600 0	350 32	3,435 5	Cr. 1,965 95½
Guanapo	608 84	102 8	—	48 22	143 15	156 0	—	7 0	6 0	—	—	—	9 52	33 15	—	—	14 78	—	—	—	8 58	3 66	200 0	70 67	1,411 65	„ 529 96
Upper Caroni	232 28	63 70	—	46 51	81 65	78 0	—	—	6 0	—	17 60	40 60	19 72	34 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	6 54	3 67	100 0	51 81	782 23	„ 586 42½
Manzanilla	81 90	19 60	20 47	—	37 56	—	—	—	11 0	—	—	—	—	5 75	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 10	18 6	—	52 90	249 34	Dr. 9 93
Tourure	400 16	50 22	—	—	88 57	104 0	—	16 32	5 40	—	—	—	10 64	36 85	—	—	—	—	—	—	5 16	28 66	100 0	73 57	919 55	Cr. 365 82½
CEDROS WARD UNION.																										
Cedros	989 17	525 0	—	260 0	491 78	508 50	597 0	239 38	3 25	22 48	27 30	17 60	31 44	32 50	709 19	—	—	—	—	1,050 0	28 92	715 69	1,825 84	307 83	8,382 87	Cr. 379 37
La Brea	580 81	195 0	—	171 88	182 52	137 30	471 0	69 12	5 0	—	26 10	—	30 0	31 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	13 80	152 55	1,350 0	58 50	3,475 8	„ 237 28
COUVA WARD UNION.																										
Chaguanas	215 70	86 25	—	79 70	226 18	179 0	535 60	213 29	—	—	3 80	—	54 28	17 0	—	—	—	—	—	25 0	16 80	46 99	2,000 0	120 82	3,820 41	Cr. 204 46
Carapichaima	363 65	65 46	—	60 40	133 20	135 0	—	31 90	6 0	53 30	—	—	23 56	29 55	—	—	—	—	—	—	8 94	288 66	850 0	277 17	2,326 79	„ 131 31
Couva	630 15	204 6	—	188 82	296 39	168 0	523 10	378 70	24 0	—	—	38 40	64 92	63 5	—	—	—	—	—	300 0	27 30	42 72	3,000 0	618 95	6,568 56	„ 203 29
Savonetta	658 98	215 61	—	200 48	489 54	208 0	546 20	153 58	3 0	—	60 20	9 60	64 64	42 60	—	—	—	—	—	300 0	34 50	42 72	3,941 60	450 98	7,422 22	„ 341 70
Pointe-a-Pierre	491 55	148 62	—	137 46	282 12	209 0	—	255 12	55 80	—	79 10	29 60	77 48	48 35	—	—	—	—	—	—	18 6	—	1,000 0	697 64	3,533 56	„ 136 54
DIEGO MARTIN WARD UNION.																										
Diego Martin	505 5	233 0	1,081 37	—	267 45	147 0	456 0	251 38	9 20	24 25	1 0	—	74 36	56 80	—	—	—	—	944 66	—	22 98	6 92	—	234 65	4,316 7	Cr. 54 94
Maraval	464 63	159 6	53 7	—	183 36	158 0	31 50	6 22	—	—	—	—	37 44	73 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	14 58	14 66	500 0	315 52	2,011 69	„ 77 71
Mucurapo	297 18	137 26	—	—	126 4	77 0	—	79 42	3 0	38 0	—	—	27 96	39 80	—	—	—	—	—	—	7 68	6 67	500 0	85 84	1,425 85	„ 1,145 79
Carenage	321 56	120 72	—	—	125 38	144 0	16 0	45 58	11 70	51 0	—	24 0	55 16	43 70	—	—	—	—	—	—	9 42	4 66	500 0	217 96	1,690 84	„ 275 46
Chaguaramas	259 58	69 96	219 20	—	48 51	100 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	14 92	44 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 78	3 66	—	71 89	835 65	Dr. 15 39
MAYARO WARD.																										
Mayaro	592 25	153 25	—	—	158 40	210 0	419 0	—	3 0	3 0	—	—	31 44	12 80	—	—	—	—	—	—	10 50	26 16	—	24 53	1,644 33	Cr. 211 6
Nariva	137 75	43 36	—	—	40 50	30 0	—	—	—	20 0	—	—	—	11 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 94	31 16	—	45 35	362 56	„ 660 28
NORTH NAPARIMA WARD UNION.																										
North Naparima	937 68	348 84	—	709 28	637 62	228 54	1,020 20	244 80	90 50	48 10	192 42	115 0	112 64	69 95	—	22 67	—	—	—	—	39 72	33 50	2,750 0	448 99	8,050 45	Cr. 1,681 33
Savanna Grande North	441 60	160 80	—	327 8	344 59	217 44	518 45	108 0	22 0	1 0	70 90	—	41 12	48 46	—	86 10	—	—	—	78 0	25 38	62 50	1,350 0	199 72	4,103 14	„ 1,484 77
Savanna Grande South	420 72	210 36	—	427 54	365 0	231 10	681 80	217 20	—	—	9 60	—	93 16	70 8	—	34 35	—	—	—	102 0	22 56	67 70	1,650 0	563 82	5,166 99	„ 883 43
SOUTH NAPARIMA WARD UNION.																										
South Naparima East	546 24	273 14	—	368 10	550 0	160 10	534 70	278 70	41 0	—	55 40	69 40	85 18	50 93	—	—	—	—	—	—	33 66	128 5	3,800 0	287 0	7,261 60	Cr. 32 87
South Naparima West	594 48	297 24	—	400 56	571 99	212 40	628 47	262 56	25 0	6 0	273 88	49 80	62 40	47 33	—	—	—	—	—	—	34 38	127 79	3,065 47	111 59	6,771 34	„ 29 81
Oropouche	299 28	149 62	—	201 62	242 32	210 50	451 85	205 36	19 75	—	117 86	—	26 76	56 83	—	—	—	—	—	450 0	12 84	231 1	866 90	32 98	3,578 48	„ 59 23
ST. ANN'S WARD UNION.																										
Aricagua	544 14	159 59	—	120 90	249 60	225 0	578 75	18 24	10 35	—	19 44	45 30	45 4	28 50	—	—	—	100 0	—	—	18 48	48 32	550 0	715 35	3,477 0	Cr. 402 45
Cimaronero	128 70	68 9	—	48 22	106 56	152 0	—	4 80	3 0	—	3 30	—	24 92	25 0	—	—	—	100 0	—	—	8 10	34 50	600 0	248 27	1,555 46	„ 349 19
Laventille	448 57	138 11	—	145 42	216 0	141 0	—	42 94	2 65	3 0	2 20	13 0	31 36	29 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	11 10	9 39	1,000 0	753 59	2,987 83	Dr. 46 76
St. Ann's	251 88	76 9	—	—	119 4	176 0	—	3 60	—	—	—	—	16 24	44 40	—	—	—	—	—	—	7 98	22 66	300 0	465 48	1,483 37	Cr. 153 35
Santa Cruz	648 32	278 12	—	199 52	435 0	260 0	503 70	43 66	18 80	4 80	3 60	—	57 96	55 40	—	—	—	100 0	—	—	31 86	22 68	2,700 0	406 23	5,774 65	„ 500 73
TACARIGUA WARD UNION.																										
Caura	150 15	115 20	—	62 58	166 62	142 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	18 84	43 95	—	—	—	—	—	—	11 52	9 94	300 0	97 74	1,118 54	Cr. 1,474 79
Lower Caroni	171 54	100 80	—	46 51	138 50	146 0	379 30	2 22	—	—	—	27 60	22 56	21 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	7 50	9 24	—	36 84	1,109 66	„ 949 24
Maracas	221 13	153 60	—	92 16	261 14	161 0	289 5	48 50	2 50	—	0 30	—	48 60	52 90	—	—	—	—	—	—	16 38	11 24	750 0	189 70	2,298 20	„ 828 78
St. Joseph	554 47	182 40	—	131 90	246 52	287 0	575 50	261 32	22 56	104 25	2 28	9 60	80 88	55 20	—	—	—	—	—	—	13 80	12 85	450 0	849 72	3,840 25	„ 375 83
Tacarigua	882 71	168 0	—	317 86	654 41	347 0	1,452 60	487 8	114 90	197 48	—	63 40	123 68	83 90	—	—	—	—	—	—	37 32	20 95	—	830 98	5,782 27	„ 2,335 9
	15,874 50	5,716 61	1,374 11	4,953 36	9,052 82	6,227 88	11,573 77	3,987 43	559 18	576 66	966 28	580 50	1,614 54	1,510 43	709 19	143 12	135 58	300 0	944 66	2,305 0	594 36	2,297 26	36,599 81	10,364 90	118,973 53	19,120 32½

Dr. *Dls.* 144 16
Cr. 18,976 16½

Dls. 19,120 32½

Enclosure 2. in No. 11.—*continued.*

STATISTICAL RETURN of the Ward Unions of the Colony of Trinidad, exhibiting also the Revenue and Expenditure of the several Wards, and the Balances standing to their Credit or Debit on the 1st January 1856—*continued.*

WARD UNIONS.	RATE PAYERS.																										
	Under 1 Dollar.	From 1 Dollar to 2 Dollars.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 8.	8 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 50.	50 to 70.	70 to 100.	100 to 125.	125 to 150.	150 to 175.	175 to 200.	200 to 250.	250 to 300.	300 to 350.	350 to 400.	400 to 450.	450 to 500.	500 to 550.	550 to 600.	600 to 650.	TOTAL.
ARIMA WARD UNION.																											
Arima	26	155	107	57	20	35	12	11	11	5	3	4	2	—	—	3	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	455
Guanapo	14	23	10	4	3	13	10	11	3	7	5	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	112
Upper Caroni	2	8	8	16	7	16	6	10	11	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	92
Manzanilla	7	1	6	16	39	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	84
Tourure	59	8	57	15	5	9	2	3	2	1	5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	168
CEDROS WARD UNION.																											
Cedros	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	96
La Brea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	196
COUVA WARD UNION.																											
Chaguanas	4	—	1	1	4	2	4	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	32
Carapichaima	7	31	39	12	9	21	11	2	3	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	141
Couva	30	9	61	56	39	78	38	10	7	5	1	—	2	1	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	343
Savonetta	8	15	17	50	33	62	21	—	4	2	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	4	—	—	—	226
Pointe-a-Pierre	17	21	50	70	46	71	18	—	5	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	309
DIEGO MARTIN WARD UNION.																											
Diego Martin	30	57	44	35	14	31	15	17	5	5	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	260
Maraval	43	21	37	27	39	43	11	10	9	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	245
Mucurapo	19	30	22	11	4	8	2	—	3	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	106
Carenage	28	81	79	23	11	13	4	5	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	250
Chaguaramas	34	11	36	27	11	14	2	5	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	146
MAYARO WARD.																											
Mayaro	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	164
Nariva	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
NORTH NAPARIMA WARD UNION.																											
North Naparima	14	29	41	33	36	40	10	5	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	5	6	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	233
Savanna Grande North	34	22	15	33	20	34	2	9	4	1	—	—	2	—	3	1	—	1	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	1	187
Savanna Grande South	59	73	53	74	30	97	18	11	3	1	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	428
SOUTH NAPARIMA WARD UNION.																											
South Naparima East	3	15	11	11	10	17	6	11	1	3	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	3	3	3	2	2	—	1	—	—	106
South Naparima West	3	5	18	5	10	13	7	4	6	2	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	3	7	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	92
Oropouche	8	72	73	19	14	10	3	1	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	210
ST. ANN'S WARD UNION.																											
Aricagua	55	25	55	21	19	12	1	6	—	—	1	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	201
Cimaronero	45	21	34	25	11	10	2	2	1	2	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	156
Laventille	158	118	104	55	48	88	18	15	7	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	618
St. Ann's	80	68	46	27	28	29	5	9	3	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	316
Santa Cruz	12	10	26	26	30	87	31	46	15	14	14	8	1	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	318
TACARIGUA WARD UNION.																											
Caura	4	2	14	7	19	41	18	28	11	5	4	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	137
Lower Caroni	—	1	1	—	5	8	7	10	7	7	6	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	55
Maraccas	19	21	29	28	12	48	10	18	13	8	15	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	225
St. Joseph	20	61	44	30	17	23	3	5	2	3	—	2	4	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	219
Tacarigua	214	103	57	27	22	20	3	7	3	—	1	1	—	1	2	—	4	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	469
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7,447

THOMAS F. JOHNSTON, Colonial Secretary.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 12.

No. 12.

Copy of a Despatch from Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 122.)

Government House, Georgetown, September 9, 1856.

Sir, Received October 4, 1856.

I have the honour to forward by this opportunity the Blue Book of the colony for the year 1855.

2. In obedience to Sir George Grey's circular despatch of the 9th August 1854, a list has now for the first time been inserted of the public furniture in the Government House. The building cannot at present be said to be completely furnished, as, besides the articles enumerated, there are many others in use which do not belong to the colony. A considerable portion of the public furniture is also old, and requires to be replaced or repaired; but there are funds at command by means of which all that is deficient can at a convenient time be supplied.

3. Taxes.—The tax ordinance of 1855 is distinguished from those of previous years mainly by the fact of its containing for the first time schedules of stamp duties. The number and description of transactions and documents which have been brought under this liability are very limited, and the rates imposed are very moderate. Indeed the whole may be regarded in the light of an experiment, upon the success of which no opinion can yet be given, for the reason that although these duties were fixed by the tax ordinance of 1855, and renewed by that of 1856, it is only within a very few days that the government has been enabled to complete the arrangements for levying them.

4. The revenue for the year amounted to 255,008*l.*, giving an apparent increase upon that of 1854 of 36,307*l.*, from which, however, must be deducted about 6,000*l.*, under various heads, for receipts which have hitherto been appropriated in diminution of expenditure, but which are now for the first time brought forward as revenue. The principal actual increase will be found under the heads of import duties, 10,399*l.*, wine and spirit duties, 3,909*l.*, and rum duty, 2,888*l.* Under the last a much greater apparent increase is shown, but that is attributable to the abandonment of the previous habit of deducting from these receipts the sum of 25,000*l.* specially set apart for immigration services, and including it among the immigration receipts. The sum now appears in its proper place.

5. The expenditure for the year is given at 239,511*l.*, being 10,927*l.* in excess of that for 1854. The first item of increase, viz., that of the ecclesiastical establishments, amounts to no less than 7,841*l.* This, however, is entirely nominal, as a corresponding deduction will be found to have been made from the charges for the civil list to which the clergy had previously been attached. The only item upon which there is an important addition to the expenditure is that of the sea wall. This charge, amounting to 22,000*l.*, is entirely new. The works which protect the city of Georgetown from the sea had up to the year 1854 been maintained under the orders and at the cost of Her Majesty's government; but in the course of that year an intimation was received from the Secretary of State to the effect that no further aid could be granted for this service, and that the funds required must be provided by the colony. A few months later a very destructive inundation took place, and from that time there has been a constant heavy drain upon the resources of the colony for the restoration of the defences, which, however, are now satisfactorily progressing towards completion.

6. The ordinances enacted by the legislature in the course of the year were in number 27. Among them, not the least important is that "to define the "terms and conditions upon which assistance shall in future be granted from the "public funds for the promotion of education." It declares that such assistance shall be granted for the support of all schools conducted under the superintendence of Christian ministers of whatever denomination, upon condition that reli-

BRITISH GUIANA.

gious instruction, founded on the Holy Scriptures, shall be given to the pupils, that certain fees shall be paid for all children attending, that the teachers must possess certain qualifications in order to entitle them to the various rates of salary allowed, and that the schools must be subject to inspection and to general rules to be laid down by the governor and the Court of Policy. The ministers of every denomination, excepting the London missionaries, have availed themselves of the assistance thus offered by the government; and I am in hopes that by means of steady perseverance, and the introduction, as circumstances will admit of it, of a superior description of teachers, we may at length make some impression upon the ignorance now unfortunately pervading a great majority of the population. Among the other ordinances will be found one for the consolidation of the laws relating to the relief of the poor, and one for the amendment of the manner of proceeding in the Supreme Civil Court, both of which appear to be working beneficially.

7. I have in the course of the last few months had occasion to address you so frequently upon all the most important subjects connected with the administration of this government, and my time has of late been so fully occupied, that I hope you will on the present occasion excuse my abstaining from further remarks upon the other subjects treated of in the Blue Book.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) P. E. WODEHOUSE.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere.
&c. &c. &c.

BARBADOS.

BARBADOS.

No. 13.

No. 13.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir W. M. G. COLEBROOKE to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P., dated Windward Islands, Barbados, January 21, 1856, No. 4.

(Received February 16, 1856.)

" I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the Blue Book of Barbados for 1855.

" *Finance.*

" The financial difficulties to which the colony was exposed throughout the greater part of the last year were attributable to the disorganization produced by a severe outbreak of cholera in 1854, and the extraordinary charges it occasioned,—to the falling off of the import duties,—and to the inadequacy of the provision made in the session of 1854-5 to meet the deficiency. It therefore became necessary, in the following session, to raise a further loan of 15,000*l.*, in addition to the previous loan of 10,000*l.*; and by increasing the duties on licences for the retail of spirituous liquors, and imposing a duty of one shilling a gallon on rum manufactured and consumed in the island, from which a revenue of from 15,000*l.* to 20,000*l.* is expected to be derived, ample means have been provided for the liquidation of all outstanding claims and for the public service of the present year, and a signal benefit has been conferred on the island in the moral effects which will result from the regulation of the licences and the duty on the consumption of rum

" With a view also to the introduction of a better system of finance, Acts were passed to provide for the appointment of an auditor of public accounts, and for the discharge of all arrears due at the close of the year, the period at which the annual accounts are in future to be made up.

" The practice of the chartered colonies of the West Indies has been, to intrust the controul and management of their finances to certain legislative committees, established under local Acts. In Barbados, until the appointment of the auditor, the public accounts were examined by the finance committee, to whom the treasurer, an officer annually chosen by the assembly, was accountable; and in answer to a proposal in 1843 to alter this system, Lord Stanley remarked, that, 'confided, as the duty entirely was, to the hands of

'the Colonial Assembly, any interference with it on the part of the Executive 'would be a delicate matter, and require the exercise of great caution.'

"The derangement of their finances, however, has given occasion from time to time, in the several colonies, to the interference of the Executive Government for the protection of the public interests; and it is due to the Assembly of Barbados to state, that, however tenacious of their privileges, after the experience of the last two years they have appreciated the advantage of rendering the auditor an officer responsible to the Government; and by appointing to the office a gentleman who holds a seat in the Assembly, a course which is for several reasons to be recommended, he will be enabled to take a leading part in the financial business of the island.

"*Commerce.*

"I have in former reports stated the objections I have entertained to the system of revenue which has obtained of late years in these islands, by the increase of the duties upon commerce, in substitution for the direct taxes formerly imposed. The change was gradually introduced after the abolition of slavery, and has been prejudicial to the trade of the islands, but as the Assembly of Barbados has shown a disposition progressively to repeal the duties on corn and provisions, and to raise an equivalent revenue from internal taxation, and as the island from its windward position is already the centre of an extensive intercolonial trade, the completion of these measures, if carried out, will have the effect of rendering it the emporium of a flourishing commerce, by which the prosperity of all classes of the people will be promoted.

* * * * * *

"*Legislation.*

"The most important legislative measures which have been passed during the last year have been the Acts 'for improving the law of evidence,' 'for amending 'the laws relating to juries and jurors,' 'for the management of the new 'prisons,' and 'for the conditional discharge of prisoners,' the post office Act, and the financial Acts to which I have alluded above.

"*Juries and Jurors.*

"By the Act relating to juries and jurors, some improvement has been effected in the composition of the petty juries; but the continued exemption of councillors and other leading members of the community from the lists has been extremely detrimental to the constitution of the grand juries.

"*Prisons.*

"The Act for the management of the new prison erected in the vicinity of Bridgetown has made provision for the instruction of the prisoners. This prison having been opened in the last year, time has not yet been afforded to realize the full benefits to be expected from it; and as it provides only for the separate confinement of seventy-two male prisoners, a further number of convicts are sent daily from the old gaol to be worked there, and to participate in the instruction afforded, until an extension of the buildings will admit of their separate confinement within it.

"As the area is extensive, it is proposed to erect within the walls a penitentiary for female convicts, which is much required; and as funds have been appropriated for the purpose, and as the labour of the male convicts will be employed on it, I hope, now that the credit of the island has been restored, that the work will be promptly executed.

"The juvenile asylum is situated in the rural districts, where the boys can be employed in agricultural labour on the neighbouring estates; but as it has not been hitherto found practicable to establish district schools for their reception, to which their parents could be made to contribute, they are subject to frequent recommitment for petty offences.

"They are generally very ignorant, and their sentences too short to afford time for them to derive much benefit from the instruction they receive in the asylum.

"In reference to the reformatory principle, on which the new prison has been established, the extension of the period for the grant of conditional discharges

has been favourable to a system which is still open to considerable improvement.

" Prisoners who conduct themselves well during two thirds of the periods of imprisonment for which they are sentenced may, on recommendation, be conditionally discharged, the condition being that they present themselves from time to time to the magistrate of the district in which they reside; and if they neglect to do so, and fail to satisfy the magistrate that they are reputably employed and associated, they are liable to be recommitted. The subdivision of the districts, and the appointment of a body of rural and town constables, annually chosen from the respectable householders in each locality, is favourable to the enforcement of these conditions, where such officers are zealous in co-operation with the magistrates and the police for the preservation of the peace of their respective divisions.

" As, however, prisoners are thus discharged in consideration only of their good conduct in prison, the restriction is limited to those who may be presumed to be the least disposed to violate the conditions; and it is much to be regretted that there is no provision for the surveillance of the magistrate and police over these incorrigible offenders, who, at the expiration of their sentences, are unconditionally liberated, and thus enabled without restraint to confederate with their old associates in crime; and if, with some special provisions, all convicts were subject to this surveillance on their discharge, as a part of their original sentences, society would be better protected than it now is from the consequences of their evil passions.

" Transportation from the colonies having long ceased to be sanctioned, the formation of penal settlements to which convicts might be removed has been frequently proposed, but, besides the objection which each colony entertains to the reception of convicts from the others, the facilities which are offered for their return after the expiration of their sentences constitute a material drawback from the advantages attending their removal; but if convicts, and especially old and incorrigible offenders, were subject to a strict surveillance of the magistracy and the police after their discharge, they would be induced voluntarily to emigrate, to escape from the liability to such restraint.

" *Education.*

" The prevalence of the cholera in 1854, and the consequent financial difficulties in 1855, conspired to disorganize the parochial schools, in regard to which some details were included in my report on the Blue Book for 1848, but it is hoped that no existing impediment to their progress will present itself in the present year.

" The attention of the Assembly has been drawn to the subject, and especially to the means which may be applied to the improvement of the training schools. At the examination of the central school in the last year, I was gratified to observe, that, although it had suffered in common with the others, its efficiency had not been impaired, several pupil teachers having been very successfully trained in it. I regretted only to find that no candidates had been brought forward from the female central school, when several might have been selected with advantage for training. I regret to observe that the parish schools are still, for the most part, in a defective condition.

" *Military Defences.*

" The amendmeut of the militia laws is still under the consideration of the Assembly; and as the obstacle to the reorganization of the Assembly, from the state of the island finances, has been removed, there is reason to expect that the session will not be allowed to terminate without the adoption of an effective measure for the public security, which, with the assistance of Her Majesty's Government, may be carried out in the course of the year.

" *General Observations.*

" The defective constitution of the local Assemblies has been a frequent subject of observation in preceding reports; and I have only to repeat my conviction, the result of much experience, that, for the good government of these colonies, the measures contemplated on the establishment of the general government would be desirably carried out by the convention of a general Assembly.

" Referring to former reports, I will here remark, that the principles of responsible government, which are impracticable under the present system of divided legislation, would hold out great encouragement to proprietors and their relations to take part in the general administration of the colonies, which it is on every account desirable to promote, while, by an extension of the franchise, the bonds which unite them to the peasantry would be strengthened, who are generally disposed to look up to them with confidence and regard, where they have been treated with humanity and justice.

" Unless such a change may be effected, by which the co-operation of the proprietary body may be brought about, it may be confidently affirmed that the institutions of these colonies cannot be long maintained, and that the government must, sooner or later, interpose, to arrest the disorganization which has already spread throughout the smaller communities, and will in time extend to the larger ones.

" I have, &c.
" (Signed) W. M. G. COLEBROOKE.

" The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,
" &c. &c. &c.

" P.S.—The abstract of the returns which has accompanied the reports of previous years has unavoidably been delayed, for the completion of some of the details, and will be hereafter forwarded.

" W. M. G. C."

No. 14.

Extract of a DESPATCH from Governor Hincks to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., dated May 7, 1856. No. 25.

(Received June 5, 1856.)

" I have the honour to transmit herewith the Barbadoes Blue Book for the year 1855, together with various comparative statements.

" Although the period embraced in these returns was prior to my assumption of the Government, I should have felt it my duty to make the usual report to accompany the Blue Book, had I not been anticipated by my predecessor, to whose Despatch, page 100, of the 21st January, No. 4. Executive, I have the honour to refer you.

* * * * * *

" It may be also proper that I should advert to the proposition for uniting the Windward Island Colonies into one Legislature. I have not only been unable to concur with my predecessor in recommending such a measure, but I have found public opinion, so far as I have been able to ascertain, unanimous against it. I am far indeed from anticipating the disastrous results for these Colonies which are apprehended by Sir W. Colebrooke, in the event of the failure of the scheme of union; but as I am of opinion that controversial discussion is out of place in a despatch of this character, I shall confine myself to a simple expression of my dissent from the opinion expressed in the last paragraph of my predecessor's report on the Blue Book for 1855."

Enclosure in No. 14.

BARBADOS.

ABSTRACT RETURN from "Blue Book" of 1855.

Revenue.

Year.	Customs Receipts.				Assessed and other Taxes.	Incidental or other Receipts.	Total.	Decrease.
	Imports.	Exports.	Tonnage.	Rent.				
	£		£	£	£	£	£	£
1854	35,762	Nil.	9,218	—	9,583	4,579	59,142	—
1855	*29,223	Nil.	9,810	742	12,222	†6,395	‡58,462	680

* Amounts claimed for drawback not included, 361*l.*
† Includes deposit of casual receiver, 1,152*l.*
‡ Exclusive of arrears of revenue 1854, 6,197*l.*, and of public loan, 10,113*l.*

Expenditure, Colonial.

Year	Civil Government.	Judicial.	Ecclesiastical.	Education.	Police.	Prisons.	Public Buildings.	Legislative Grants.	Other Expenditure.	Total.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1854	9,545	7,366	7,020	1,882	16,231	3,335	6,103	2,277	17,468	71,227	—
1855	9,884	7,634	6,865	2,677	13,772	5,244	2,390	826	20,272	*69,523	1,704

* Exclusive of drawback, 361*l.*, and includes repayment of loan and interest, 3,830*l.*

Expenditure, Great Britain.

Year.	Civil.	Military.	Total.	Remarks.
£	£	£	£	The first column includes Governor's salary and establishment, the clergy and packet agent's salary, allowances to stipendiary magistrates. The second column includes all military expenditure.
1854	10,150	70,275	80,425	
1855	9,700	66,390	76,090	

Population.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Remarks.
1854	Estimated at - -		124,568	
1855	62,272	73,667	135,939	Per Census of 1851.

Land.

Year.	Area in Square Miles.	Acreage under Cultivation.	Remarks.
1854	166	100,000	It has been found impracticable, without legislative assistance, to obtain any accurate information on this subject.
1855	166	100,000	

Coins and Currency.

Year.	Specie in Circulation.	Notes in Circulation.	Remarks.
1854	50,000*l.*	36,000*l.*	British silver constitutes almost the entire currency. There is also a limited circulation of British gold. The only paper currency is colonial bank notes.
1855	45,000*l.*	40,000*l.*	

Churches.

Year.	Church of England.	Other Denominations.	No. of Sittings.	Average Attendance.	Remarks.
1854	49	—	26,726	—	No accurate returns of average attendance.
1855	49	—	26,128	—	

Value in Sterling.

	Imports.				Exports.			
Year.	From Great Britain.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To Great Britain.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1854	Not returned separately.			596,843	782,156	141,672	22,021	945,849
1855	296,098	124,330	224,356	644,784	572,243	163,612	54,475	790,330

Shipping.

	Inwards.				Outwards.			
Year.	From Great Britain.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To Great Britain.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
1854	33,567	27,324	34,500	95,391	37,927	27,566	23,695	89.188
1855	29,460	32,601	34,664	96,725	33,326	37,738	25,881	96,945

Criminal and other Prisoners.

Year.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Increase.	Debtors.
1854	1,082	482	186	116	1,866	—	16
1855	1,509	762	401	135	2,807	941	21

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No. 15.

No. 15.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor HINCKS to the Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE M.P., dated Windward Islands, Barbados, May 2, 1856, No. 18. (Received June 5, 1856.)

"I HAVE the honour to forward to you a Despatch from Lieut.-Governor Keate, containing his observations on the state and prospects of Grenada, which he intended to serve to some extent as his report upon the 'Blue Book' of that island for 1855, the returns of which were not likely to be completed before his departure from Grenada."

Encl. in No. 15.

Enclosure in No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor KEATE to Governor HINCKS.

(No. 34.)

SIR, Government House, Grenada, April 23, 1856.

The "Blue Book" for 1855 not having yet been placed in my hands by the Colonial Secretary, from whom I also learn that it is not likely to be completed before my departure from the island, in the event of my obtaining the leave of absence for which I have been compelled so suddenly to apply, I have thought it desirable that before I go I should offer a few general observations on the state and prospects of the colony, which, though not positively founded on the "Blue Book" returns, may serve to some extent as a report upon them.

2. I regret to have to commence by stating that the income of the colony raised within the year 1855 was again insufficient to meet the expenditure sanctioned. The principal but not the only discrepancy between estimated and realized receipts occurred in that branch of the revenue which has been exhibiting for some time past a progressive unfruitfulness, namely, the customs duties. Their produce during the previous four years had been as follows:

In 1851	-	10,280*l.*
In 1852	-	9,637*l.*
In 1853	-	8,631*l.*
In 1854	-	6,983*l.*

They were estimated by the House of Assembly in committee of ways and means to produce in 1855, 7,150*l.*, but realized only 6,401*l.* The decline in progress was for a long time attributed to temporary and accidental causes; but experience and observation have demonstrated, to me at least, that it can only be legitimately ascribed to the fact of a decided diminution having taken place in the purchasing and consuming powers of the community. This is sufficiently accounted for by the gradual change which has been going on for a series of years, but more perceptibly within the last two or three, in the composition and habits of society in the colony.

3. The existing tariff of import duties is so framed as to be dependent in a great degree for its productiveness on the extent to which sugar, the old staple of the island, is manufactured, for that was and still is, though not by any means so exclusively, the main spring of its prosperity. A number of sugar estates have, however, from a variety of circumstances too well known to need explanation, been successively abandoned as such; and it was impossible but that, as one after another went out of cultivation, the number of persons supported in comparative affluence upon them, or engaged in commercial pursuits connected

with them, forming together the upper ranks of society, would diminish; that supplies intended for their use or for estates purposes would continue to arrive in smaller quantities from year to year; and that the revenue from imports would proportionally suffer. Nor must the stricter economy with which the remaining estates are conducted, and the less expensive habits of life engendered by the smaller profits obtainable from them, be left out of view in the consideration of the question.

4. It is true that many of the properties alluded to are not lying waste, but are being cultivated successfully in cocoa, coffee, and other minor exportable articles, or at least as provision grounds, so that a substitution rather than a cessation of industry has taken place, but it has not been of a kind to render equal service in swelling the indirect income of the colony. For the production of cocoa or coffee comparatively few supplies are required from abroad, and for that of provisions none beyond the commonest implements of husbandry. In neither case is occupation afforded for that large amount of superintending labour which has been thrown out of employ by so extensive an abandonment of sugar making, or a new opening for that commercial enterprize which has been partially paralysed by the same cause. A class of peasant proprietors and renters of land has come into existence, which in its degree is making rapid strides in prosperity and independence, and a new class of tradesmen more fitted to supply its limited wants than the larger mercantile firms. But with the change in their position the peasantry of Grenada have hitherto altered but very slightly their simple habits of life, and consequently their purchases of imported goods for personal consumption do not suffice to fill up the void that has been created. As they advance in civilization as well as in material well-being they will no doubt become consumers on a more extended scale, but the present tariff, being adapted to a different state of things, operates to check this development. While that phase of prosperity then on which the import revenue was mainly based has been diminishing, another, by which it is at present scarcely affected, has been arising, and this change of circumstances has unfortunately not been accompanied by any corresponding change in the fiscal system of the colony. Though additional direct taxation has been resorted to, no attempt has yet been made to re-invigorate the consuming powers of the higher classes, or to stimulate those of the lower, by any abolition or judicious reduction of import duties. So far from this having been the case, a Bill passed the House of Assembly towards the close of the year for raising the rates on the principal items in the tariff, which was in fact to endeavour to improve the customs receipts by enhancing the causes which have led to their decline. This Bill, however, has not become law.

5. The recent history of the internal taxation of the colony is equally illustrative of the social change in progress. The graduated rate, for instance, which has been levied year after year, with some modifications, on the rental value of houses of a class to be occupied by persons in the higher walks of life, has been gradually but very perceptibly falling off in productiveness, while the fixed tax imposed on the cottages of the peasantry continued to yield increasing results, till a temporary check was given to them by the ravages of the cholera in 1854, and it is now beginning to regain its elasticity. The receipts from the duty on saddle horses and mules, chiefly used by the upper classes, have only been kept up to anything like their former amount by the rate having been raised, while the humbler quadruped of the peasant has been brought within its scope. The special liability to road service, commutable by a money payment, imposed by a recent Act on all male persons within certain ages, has, moreover, had the effect of making this rising class of the community contribute still further to the public needs, while it has fallen but lightly on their superiors in the social scale.

6. This Act, and that for the imposition of an excise on rum for general purposes, passed a short time before it, would have made up for the decrease of the customs revenue to a greater extent than they have, had it not been that the former only came into operation towards the middle of the year, when a sum of between 700*l.* and 800*l.* had already been drawn out of the Treasury for the repair of roads, and that the machinery of the latter has not been found to work so well as was hoped and expected. By one of its clauses the tax on licences to retail spirits was doubled, which has only tended to diminish the number of licences taken out, and to encourage illicit sales. But one great object aimed at

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by it was to ensure a more complete collection of the duty on consumption, by taking the responsibility of payment off the shoulders of the retailer, on which it lay, under the old annually renewed Acts for raising an immigration fund, and placing it upon those of the distiller. All that can be said on this subject at present is, that the experiment has not answered. So long as it is attempted to carry out a system of excise without a staff of excise officers, as is done in Grenada, the duties exacted under it, by whomsoever disbursed in the first instance, must remain in the category of those which have been aptly termed conscience taxes.

7. But the adverse balance in the year's accounts is not to be solely attributed to too sanguine anticipations having been entertained of the produce of this or that item of revenue. Nor is it to be explained by increase of expenditure, for such as there was was rather apparent than real. Acts for remodelling and fixing at a reduced rate the emoluments of the several offices of government have one after another come into force, as vacancies occurred in them. Hence certain charges are now introduced in the schedule of expenditure which before had no place in them, having been defrayed by the heads of departments out of the fees by which they were then in part remunerated; but the fees themselves now begin to appear on the other side of the account among the sources of income. The salaries of a surveyor of roads, public works and buildings, and of division officers, under the New Road Act, have taken the place of the far larger sums voted in former years for the maintenance of the roads. A controllership of customs was also established on the withdrawal of the imperial customs' officers, with which I trust will eventually be combined all the functions of an audit office; but the expenses connected with this change are already partly balanced by a diminution in the number of revenue officers, and will be further met hereafter by a reduction in the salary of the treasurer, which is to take effect on the next vacancy. The improvement in the collection of the revenue, and in the keeping and checking of the public accounts, which is being effectuated by the measure, will amply compensate for the remaining difference. Some additional outlay was incurred for police purposes, the standing force having been augmented since the withdrawal of the military; and an extraordinary grant of 300*l.* was made to the retiring Speaker of the House of Assembly; but on the whole the expenditure, omitting the cholera charges of 1854, which were specially provided for in the estimates for 1855, cannot be said to have surpassed the average of former years.

8. The discrepancy then must be otherwise accounted for. I have had occasion more than once to direct attention to a habit which had been contracted by the legislature, not only of having recourse in unforeseen emergencies to the immigration fund, which had been accumulating for a considerable time without being applied to its primary object, but even to keep it in view when estimating ways and means or sanctioning expenditure. The existence of this reserve, and the convenience of drawing upon it, conduced, I am convinced, in no small degree to veil the unsound state of the finances from the observation of those who are entrusted with the initiation of all measures concerning them, and to postpone that revision of the revenual system of the colony by which alone they could have been placed on a firmer footing. It prevented for a time, and but for the unexpected cholera expenditure might have done so still longer, the outbreak of that general feeling of discontent and dismay which seized upon the members of the Assembly towards the close of the year, when the season arrived for framing the annual Supply Bill, and when it was discovered that the deficiency, which indeed had become periodical, was again there, but that the reserve, so habitually relied on for making it good, was no longer available, and that for the future it would be impossible to meet the current expenditure without raising a revenue really adequate to it. In fact, since the last draft upon it, the position of the fund in question had been entirely changed. In the interval an Act had been passed by which its accumulations had been saved from the possibility of future alienation, by being set apart for providing the interest and sinking fund of the loan of 7,000*l.* authorized to be raised under the guarantee of Great Britain for furthering immigration. It had always been evident to me that the labour market of the island would never be recruited by immigration till this was done; and as it was equally clear that it could not be done without dissipating in a short time the mists which obscured the real situation of its finances, I lost no opportunity of urging the adoption of preventive measures.

I thought, however, that if foresight should fail, as it did, to guard against the evil that was impending, I might safely rely on the patriotism, not to say the gratitude, of the planting interest at least, for whose especial benefit this rescue of the immigration fund had been achieved, to use their utmost endeavours to remedy it, when it arrived, in a just and equitable spirit. This expectation was not realized.

9. Such, I am persuaded, are the undeveloped resources of the island, that there would have been no difficulty in doing so had an administrative machinery existed, by which, after a careful and dispassionate consideration of the state of the country, and the changes which had been and were going on in it, a comprehensive scheme might have been prepared, and brought forward in such a shape as to have met and merited the approbation of all branches of the legislature. In the absence of such machinery, a number of undigested and conflicting plans were proposed by individual members of the Assembly; and the principal feature in the one ultimately adopted by the House was the imposition of a very heavy graduated income tax on all public officers, leaving all other professions, avocations, and employments entirely untouched. A principle so manifestly unjust in itself, so inconsistent with the enactments on the faith of which those officers hold their appointments, and several of which had but a short time before received the assent of the Crown, and so subversive of arrangements deliberately made, and professing to be of a permanent nature, was of course inadmissible. At the close of the year no Bill had been passed, the existing Act expired, and the finances of the island were left in complete confusion.

10. It is a peculiarity of the constitution of Grenada, and one the evil effects of which cannot but be apparent to every unbiassed mind capable of appreciating them, that such things as government measures are entirely unknown to it, and that matters of the highest importance to the country have consequently to be taken up, as best they may, on the motion of individual irresponsible members of the legislature. Should it so happen, as in the instance just referred to, that measures are thus brought forward, and partly carried, based upon principles to which no government, however composed, could possibly in conscience accede, the executive, under such circumstances, is at once put into the false and undignified position of having in one way or another to oppose, in Her Majesty's name, instead of governing and proposing in it; and on many occasions it is only extricated from this dilemma after the occurrence of a collision of longer or shorter duration between the two deliberative branches of the legislature; or, if this should be obviated, after that which ought to have been the result of previous administrative arrangement has been laboriously worked out by conferences between them.

11. This practice of holding conferences, in itself a somewhat awkward contrivance, has grown up from the necessities of the case. It is the only means by which, under present circumstances, the Legislative Council can, in its character of advising Council also of the Governor, serve as a connecting link between him and the Assembly, and by which the measures emanating from the latter can be brought into conformity with the tenor of the instructions furnished to him, and of imperial legislation and policy, and with sound and equitable principles of political economy, in points where, through inadvertence, want of information, or other causes less easily counteracted, they may be found to deviate from them. The Council, therefore, is obliged, contrary to its wishes, to appear in many instances to take a more prominent part in financial matters than is theoretically consistent with its position as a legislative body. If it acted otherwise, its only alternative would be to exercise its power of rejection, and thus to obstruct instead of forwarding the progress of legislation.

12. I should not allude in this report, having treated of it fully on other occasions, to the obvious remedy for this state of things, which has already been applied in other colonies similarly situated, and will ere long be resorted to in this, namely, the admission of members of the Assembly to the Executive Council, were it not that an idea seems to have gained ground that such a step must necessarily involve the adoption of the principle of government by party. If this were really so, I should be the last person in the world to advocate it, for I can conceive nothing that would be so fatal to the good government, peace, order, and prosperity of the island as any attempt to establish in it a system of administration for which the elements are so entirely wanting.

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13. That this is the case is shown pretty clearly by the fact that not the slightest desire for its introduction has ever been evinced in this colony in any quarter; but a little further consideration will fully demonstrate it. While no change has been made in the aggregate number of persons composing the Council and Assembly, the ranks of society from which they are drawn have undergone a material diminution, as I have already pointed out in reference to the decline of the customs duties. The Election Act passed in 1854 is calculated to facilitate entry into the lower House by the reduction it has made in the qualifications of members; but, notwithstanding this, at the general election held at the commencement of the present year, no more than thirty three candidates presented themselves for the twenty-six seats which had to be filled up, and of these one is since dead, and another was put up against his wishes. No doubt the seven rejected candidates were not the only remaining individuals in the island qualified according to the Act to become such; but upon the whole the House, as now constituted, represents very fairly the materials which exist in the colony for the formation of a legislature, and of political parties in it.

14. The twenty-six members of the Assembly may be thus divided:—

Planters	16
Merchants	7
Police magistrate	1
Acting stipendiary magistrate	1
Journalist	1

Of the merchants, one is also a planter, and one holds the small office of clerk to the St. George's market. The journalist is the contractor for the public printing. By the word planters, I mean persons occupied in the production of sugar, for all other agricultural interests are unrepresented. It must not be supposed, however, that these sixteen planters are all beneficially interested in estates as owners or even lessees, for though a clause introduced into the Election Act for admitting the attornies of absent proprietors, as such, into the House, was eventually struck out, they and managers also come in under another clause, which makes an income of 200*l.* a year from any source a sufficient qualification. Persons thus situated, whatever latent talents they may possess, have neither the leisure, the independent means, nor the inclination to give themselves up to political life. Even if there were any grounds on which they could be divided into parties having different interests to contend for, which is not the case, and it were consequently endeavoured to carry measures of public importance through the influence of this or that section of them, leaders having more time on their hands would necessarily have to be sought for out of their sphere and class. With qualifications for membership so low, and habitually but little scrutinized, the search for such would only have the effect of bringing into prominence that class of political adventurers and speculators who are found hanging about the skirts of society in all communities. In endeavouring by such means to remedy existing evils and inconveniences, the result could only be a worse disease in the body politic.

15. The very simple reform required is of an administrative and not a political nature. It affects the machinery by which, rather than the principles on which the government of the country is conducted. It is to put the Legislative Council and the Assembly on the same footing in respect to executive matters, by selecting from the two a privy council composed of their most enlightened, most just and upright, and most business-like members, and to enable the Government to take the initiative through them, in either House, not, as at present, in the shape of suggestive and argumentative messages only, which may or may not be listened to, understood, appreciated, and acted upon, but by legislative measures prepared and drafted after due deliberation in council, both as to their principles and details, and brought forward in an obligatory and responsible manner. For success in carrying its measures the Government would still have to depend on the same grounds it now relies on in regard to its messages and recommendations,—not, that is, on party influence or political manœuvering,—but on their intrinsic merits, which it will have gained the means of elucidating and explaining. The first step towards party government will thus have been made, and its adoption facilitated, whenever required; but nothing but disaster could ensue from an attempt to introduce it prematurely on mere speculative grounds, at a time when the materials for its exercise are entirely wanting, and the public voice has not demanded it.

16. It is in the more careful management of the finances of the island,—in the gradual and timely adaptation of its means to its requirements,—and in the prevention, consequently, of those periodical accesses of confusion and discontent which under the existing system, or want of system, must occur, that the advantages of the change will be most perceptible; but there is no subject likely to come within the scope of legislation on which the initiative of Government would not be beneficially felt. Mainly owing to the disabilities under which the executive now labours, and the insufficiency of the legislature to supply spontaneously the motive power required, many matters adverted to in my former Blue Book reports remain in the same position, or very nearly so, as when first I began to write upon the state and prospects of the colony. No less than twenty Acts were passed during last year, some of them of considerable importance, such as those relating to the roads, the re-organization of the police under the control of the executive, the establishment of a militia, the regulation of immigration and of certain public offices, and for the better administration of justice; but there is one point on which I regret to say scarcely any progress has yet been made, namely, the improvement of the educational institutions of the island. Towards the close of the year, however, I was requested by the Assembly to appoint a temporary inspector, to investigate and report upon the condition of all schools receiving public aid, with a view, as I hope, to future legislation on the subject. Mr. Samuel Cockburn, acting stipendiary magistrate, to whose able hands I entrusted this task, has just furnished me with a transcript of the report he has drawn up, which will be laid before the Council and Assembly on an early day. I am enabled, therefore, to append a copy of it to this Despatch.

17. In conclusion, I have the satisfaction of stating that at its first meeting in the present year the legislature expressed a willingness to take up the subject to which I have so often alluded, of providing increased gaol accommodation. I trust, therefore, that, so soon as the finances of the colony are restored to something like order, the means will be forthcoming for carrying out an improvement on which so much depends, and the necessity for which is becoming daily more and more apparent.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT W. KEATE.

His Excellency Governor Hincks,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT of the INSPECTOR of SCHOOLS.

SIR, Grenada, April 22, 1856.

IN presenting to your Excellency my "Report on the several schools in this colony which are maintained wholly or in part by grants of public money," it may be necessary to bear in mind that my appointment took place about the end of the year, at rather an unfavourable season for inspection, as the schools are generally badly attended at that period of the year; and I felt, and at once represented to your Excellency, that one single inspection on a hasty tour through the island, which only the time would permit me to make, would not enable me to do justice to the subject, and your Excellency was pleased to concur in the suggestion, that I should continue till the year should expire, that I might have the advantage of the whole twelve months' returns from which to compile the statistical tables required, and be allowed more time to compare the progress of the children by repeated examinations.

In order to facilitate the work, I immediately issued a set of queries to the respective ministers and teachers, with a request that the answers should be returned to me as early after the turn of the year as possible; and in the meantime I proceeded to visit the several schools, and have continued my inspections from time to time to the present period. The pressing duties of the ministers during the Christmas holidays, and other circumstances, prevented them from completing the returns as soon as was expected; and even up to this moment some have not yet sent in any at all; but feeling I can no longer defer my report without considerable inconvenience to the public service, I am now constrained to lay before your Excellency the report from my own observations, deducing as just and fair conclusions as I am able to arrive at under the circumstances, without the complete series of returns which I had desired to obtain.

The annexed abstract, compiled from the materials at my command, will give a general view of the whole of the schools, the number of scholars, and the different branches taught, the progress of the pupils, the salaries of the teachers, and the total amount expended on the whole establishment.

GRENADA.

There are altogether thirty schools of different denominations, of which nineteen are of the Established Church, numbering - - - pupils 897
four of the Wesleyan Missionary Society - - „ 303
and seven of the Roman Catholic Church - „ 282

educating together - - 1,482 children, of which the average attendance is 1,069 daily throughout the year.

Religious instruction, reading, writing, and arithmetic, are taught in all, and the elements of geography, history, and grammar in several, under the superintendence of the respective clergymen: and upon the whole, considering the many difficulties they have to contend with, the pupils exhibit a fair amount of attainments.

But the points to which your Excellency particularly directed my attention were, "the nature and efficiency of the systems followed; the qualifications of the teachers; "the number and description of scholars; the hours and amount of daily attendance; "the fees paid weekly; the mode and proportion in which the grants are appropriated, "in salaries to teachers, rent of school buildings, purchase of books, stationery, &c., and "generally on the condition and state of all the schools that may come under my con- "sideration." I shall take these specific points seriatim, and afterwards give a particular account of each individual school.

1st. The nature and efficiency of the system followed.

Though some profess to adopt one plan and some another, there is no particular uniform method pursued in any of the schools, but a sort of mixture of the different systems in all, with modifications in each to suit peculiar circumstances or the predilections of the teacher or the minister. But the method is efficient enough for the purposes in view, if it were strictly carried out and persevered in. Where the supervision of the minister is lax, or the extent of his parish prevents him from visiting the schools as frequently as he could wish, and in consequence a great deal is left to the teacher, a degree of carelessness is evident, and the pupils do not exhibit that amount of improvement which they otherwise would. A great want of regularity and discipline is manifest; no proper register is kept of the ages of the children; and of the date when they enter or leave the school no record is preserved, and where any is kept at all it is in so defective and dilapidated a state as to be next to useless for obtaining the information necessary, in order to arrive at an estimate of the effectual working out of the system; so that I found it impossible to procure complete returns of school operations for even the last five years, and I am consequently forced to limit my observations in a great measure to the single year last expired. Some honourable exceptions there are, however, to this sweeping censure, which shall be pointed out when I come to speak of each individual school in the appendix.

2d. The qualifications of the teachers.

As a class, the teachers are sufficiently qualified for the work at present before them. Many, having had the experience of several years, are fully competent to instruct. All the ministers report favourably of their general conduct (with a few exceptions); and I can myself testify to their best exertions under the circumstances according to their ability. But they are deficient in energy and zeal; they want that love of the work for its own sake which would animate them with a missionary spirit, and a deeper interest in the success of their labours. The apathy of the community is infectious, and, whatever energy the teachers might formerly have exhibited, of late years a lamentable falling off is conspicuous. The status of the corps has not improved with the increasing wants of society, and hence in some measure the retrogradation of the schools. If the labouring classes are to progress in life, and the standard of education is to be raised, and a more extended system of instruction adopted, as sooner or later must be the case, then a higher class of teachers will certainly be necessary. At present the existing staff is sufficient, only so far as it prepares the way for a better one in the next generation. To simply give catechetical instruction, and teach spelling, reading, writing, and the first principles of arithmetic, does not require any great scholarship. It is the tact and talent to impart what little he knows that is the great desideratum in a teacher; and when we consider that several of them are eléves of these very establishments, and that the profession of pedagogy is not unfrequently adopted as a last resort when everything else has failed, the surprise is not that we number so few of the literati in the corps, but that so many are at all able to teach. Besides, the low salary they receive, and want of encouragement under which they labour, render it difficult to procure a successor when a vacancy occurs, and induce a lukewarmness in the work which acts with double effect on the pupils. Condemned to the drudgery of a most laborious employment, with a mere pittance of a salary, with no cheering prospect of rising in his profession or bettering his condition, and with hardly the countenance or sympathy of the public, the teacher is doomed to waste his energies frequently on a barren field, unaided, unnoticed, and unknown. Is it wonderful, then, that men of talent and education are unwilling to labour in the cause, and that of those who do, many, after years of ineffectual struggles in an enervating climate, failing in their efforts to reduce into beauteous shape or form the rude intractable materials they have to work upon, sink into apathy and indifference, and abandon at last the unprofitable labour in sheer disgust and utter disappointment.

3d. The number and description of the scholars, and the hours and amount of daily attendance.

The scholars are principally of the labouring classes, and range generally between the ages of five and fifteen years. In the infant schools they are younger; from four to ten. The total number of pupils in the 30 schools is, as already stated, 1,482, of which 958 are boys and 524 are girls, giving an average of only 32 boys and 17 girls, equal to 49 pupils to each school. An abstract of their ages in a tabular form, so far as could be ascertained, is given in the appendix, as well as a comparison with the school generation of the last census (1851), by which it appears that of 7,636 children, then between the ages of five and fifteen, only 1,482 are at present attending these public schools.

The hours of daily attendance are from nine in the morning to three in the afternoon, less one hour at noon for relaxation, making five hours per day, or 25 hours per week of five school days; and allowing 48 weeks to the year, one being discounted for vacation at Easter and three at Christmas, it gives 1,200 hours, equal to 100 days of 12 hours each during the year. But very few of the children avail themselves of the whole of this time. A great many attend only two days in the week, and several absent themselves for months together, and when they return they forget everything they had learned, and have to begin again de novo.

4th. The fees paid weekly, and the mode and proportion in which the grants are appropriated, in salaries to teachers, rent of school buildings, purchase of books, stationery, &c., and generally the condition and state of all the schools that may come under my consideration.

The fee charged in Grenada is generally 3*d.* per week, but in Carriacou it varies from 1½*d.* to 3*d.*, according to the branches taught. Little, however, of this fee is paid, and latterly it has dwindled away to almost nothing. The rigid exacting of it has been followed by the withdrawal of the children, so that in many schools it is abandoned altogether. The parents of the children are very reluctant to pay anything at all, either for the schooling, or for books, slates, stationery, &c., and are under the impression that they are relieved from all pecuniary contribution by the fact of the teacher receiving a public salary. In Carriacou, however, the fees are more willingly paid, though even there the children are often kept at home when the teacher presses for the weekly pence. It will be seen that only 50*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* were collected altogether during the year 1855, of which a little more than a third (16*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*) was paid at Carriacou.

The grants and donations for the last year were as follows:

	£ s.	£ s.
For the central schools:		
From the public chest	80 0	
From funds of the society	40 0	
		120 0
For the rector of St. George's parish:		
From the public chest	130 0	
From the Lieutenant Governor	9 0	
		139 0
For the rector of St. John and St. Mark		160 0
For the rector of St. Patrick		50 0
For the rector of St. Andrew and St. David:		
From the public chest	132 10	
From the Ladies Negro Education Society (for the St. Clement's school)	5 0	
		137 10
For the rector of Carriacou:		
From the public chest	80 0	
From the Lord Bishop of the diocese	25 0	
		105 0
		711 10
For the Wesleyan Missionary Society:		
From the public chest	180 0	
From the society's funds	50 0	
		230 0
For the Roman Catholic priest of St. George	30 0	
For the Roman Catholic priest of St. John	30 0	
For the Roman Catholic priest of St. Patrick	30 0	
For the Roman Catholic priest of St. Andrew	30 0	
For the Roman Catholic priest of St. David	30 0	
For the Roman Catholic priest of Carriacou	30 0	
		180 0
TOTAL		£1,121 0

GRENADA.

	£	s.		
Which was appropriated in the following manner:				
To the master of the central school	80	0		
To the matron of ditto	40	0		
			120	0
To the matron of the infant school St. George	25	0		
Rent of school-house for same	10	0		
To the matron of the Richmond Hill school	30	0		
To the matron of the St. Paul's school	35	0		
To the teachers of the St. Luke's school	30	0		
To the purchase of books, &c.	9	0		
			139	0
To the master of the St. John's boys' school	25	0		
To the matron of the St. John's girls' school	25	0		
To the matron of the St. John's infant school	30	0		
To the master of the Black Bay school	30	0		
To the teachers of the St. Mark's school	50	0		
			160	0
To the master of the St. Patrick's school			50	0
To the master of the Grenville school	40	0		
Rent of school-house	6	5		
Books, stationery, &c.	6	5		
To the teacher of the St. David's glebe school	40	0		
To the teacher of the St. Clement's school £40 0				
Donation from the Ladies Society 5 0				
	45	0		
			137	10
To the master of the Hillsborough school £30 0				
To the matron of ditto 15 0				
	45	0		
To the teacher of the Top Hill school	15	0		
To the teacher of the Harvey Vale school	15	0		
To the teacher of the glebe school	15	0		
	£90	0		
To half year of the Petit Martinique school, since closed	7	10		
To the balance divided between the other teachers, thus:—				
The first three 8$, each = 33s. 4d. £5 0				
The other two 6$, each = 25s. 2 10				
	7	10		
			105	0
To the Wesleyan missionary schools:				
Teacher in town of St. George	70	0		
Do. do. Woburn, parish of St. George	46	0		
Do. do. Constantine, do.	41	0		
Do. do. Grenville	73	0		
			230	0
To the Roman Catholic school teachers:				
Teacher in town of St. George	30	0		
Do. parish of St. John	30	0		
Do. parish of St Patrick	30	0		
Do. parish of St. Andrew	30	0		
Do. parish of St. David	30	0		
Do. Carriacou	30	0		
			180	0
TOTAL			£1,121	10

Expended for the education of 1,482 children, equal to about 15*s.* 1½*d.* per annum, or 1*s.* 1*d.* per head per month. Very little appears to have been spent for books, maps, and other school furniture, and accordingly the schools are sadly in want of these necessary appendages. Many of the ministers have from their own funds imported books, stationery, &c., with a view of selling them, at cost and charges, to the children, but very few were sold, and those sold were never paid for, and the rest, after remaining on hand for some time, were ultimately distributed to the children gratis. The schools are generally large and airy buildings, in fit and appropriate positions, but some are in want of repairs. Two only are rented; one in town of St. George at 10*l.* a year, and the other in Grenville Town at 6*l.* 5*s.* Four are given gratuitously; one at Beausejour, and three at Carriacou, which latter are all in a very bad state.

With respect to the condition of the schools, by which I understand their intellectual status, I feel bound to report that there is abundant room for improvement, although in all of them the children exhibit a creditable amount of proficiency according to their

ages and attendance. Most of them read fluently, but do not spell well. Some write pretty correctly from dictation, and in cyphering they understand well the rules they have passed. Their copybooks and cyphering books are clean and neatly kept; but too many are obliged to be confined to the slates, from the reluctance of the parents to supply stationery. They all excel in writing. Their intellect is good. Capacity, average fair, and many show an aptitude for learning; but the short time they are permitted to stay at school, and the irregularity of their attendance, prevent them from acquiring the full benefits which the institution is capable of affording. They seldom remain longer than two years (but some have stayed till five with evident advantage), when they are removed to learn some trade or handicraft, or assist their parents in agricultural labour. Some had advanced in arithmetic as far as practice before they left, while others (the majority) have been taken away before they had mastered the four elementary rules, or could read properly or write a fair hand. Children of all denominations are admitted to the schools indiscriminately; but on the extension of public grants to the Roman Catholic schools a great many of that persuasion left the Protestant schools, and the spirit of rivalry which arose caused a great fluctuation in the numbers, and several children have been known to attend the schools of every denomination during the short period of their probation. Nevertheless the number of schools and school attendance had greatly increased since the last report of a committee of the Honourable House of Assembly (in 1850), till the cholera came, and swept away its thousands, and thinned the ranks of all the schools.

The demand for agricultural labour also abstracts a great many children from the schools; and although an opinion is prevalent among certain parties that schooling renders the labourer unfit for tilling the soil, this does not seem to be borne out by facts, for it appears that a great majority do resort to agricultural pursuits after leaving school. True, they do not readily flock to the sugar estates to work, because, from a laudable ambition, they prefer to rent patches of land, and cultivate the minor products on their own account, with a view of eventually procuring their own independent homesteads; but this is not to be attributed to the influence of the schools solely; it is the natural aspiration after progress and advancement implanted by the Almighty Creator in the breast of every member of the human race, and it will manifest itself, and must ultimately prevail, in spite of every obstacle to prevent it.

I have before me a list of many who have undergone a training at these schools, whose advancement in a different sphere of life is satisfactory, and whose general conduct is creditable; and when reference is had to the comparatively temperate and orderly conduct of the labouring population, it must be conceded that the schools have had their share in shedding a moral influence over the minds of the existing generation.

Upon the whole, then, considering the disadvantages under which they laboured and do still labour, in a community the majority of which are unable from sheer ignorance to appreciate the benefits of intellectual cultivation, the schools have done their duty well; but circumstances loudly call for reform in the system, and improvement in the standard of instruction. Until the peasantry, however, be brought to know the value of education, and the community at large to take a greater interest in the subject, and thus become co-operators in the great and good work, in vain will be the best of teachers!—in vain all efforts of the legislature to promote the cause!

(Signed) J. COCKBURN.

His Excellency R. W. Keate, Lieut.-Governor,
&c. &c. &c.

GENERAL ABSTRACT of the REPORT of the INSPECTOR of SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS.	Number in Books.			Average Number in daily Attendance.			Bible Class.			Testament Class.			Minor Classes.									Writing Classes.						Arithmetic.					
													Reading Book of general Information.			Reading easy Narrative.			Letters and Mono-syllables.			In Books.			On Slates.			Compound Rules.			Simple Rules.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
TOWN OF ST. GEORGE.																																	
2 Central Schools -	70	59	129	42	39	81	13	12	25	10	11	21	.	.	.	15	12	27	32	24	56	20	12	32	12	33	45	9	.	9	9	12	21
1 Infants' School -	8	21	29	5	14	19	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	5	.	.	8	.	.	12	These Branches												
1 Wesleyan School -	76	25	101	48	14	62	24	9	33	23	2	25	12	5	17	11	3	14	6	7	12	48	12	60	25	7	32	21	.	21	32	12	44
1 Roman Catholic School.	28	23	51	20	20	40	.	.	.	2	4	6	.	.	.	10	5	15	16	14	30	2	3	5	7	7	14	.	.	.	2	4	6
PARISH OF ST. GEORGE.																																	
1 Richmond Hill School.	14	16	30	9	12	21	.	.	6	.	.	5	.	.	4	.	.	4	.	.	15	No proper											
1 Saint Paul's School	6	16	23	4	11	15	.	.	.	.	4	4	.	.	.	3	6	9	3	6	9	2	4	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	4	6
1 Saint Luke's School	20	11	31	17	6	23	5	1	6	.	.	.	2	2	4	4	2	6	10	5	15	4	1	5	4	1	5	.	.	.	4	1	5
1 Constantine School (Wesleyan).	48	26	74	24	8	32	2	.	2	9	.	9	.	.	.	18	9	27	19	17	36	5	2	7	4	.	4	1	.	1	6	2	8
1 Woburn School (Wesleyan).	38	25	63	23	11	37	5	4	9	6	6	12	6	6	12	9	4	13	12	5	17	12	4	16	11	4	15	4	.	4	16	3	19
PARISH OF ST. JOHN.																																	
2 St. John's Parochial Schools.	42	36	78	32	30	62	22	11	33	8	22	30	.	.	.	12	3	15	.	.	.	30	22	52	12	14	26	16	5	21	26	30	56
1 St. John's Infants' School.	49	49	98	44	42	86	.	.	.	7	10	17	1	11	12	10	15	25	31	13	44	.	.	.	7	10	17	.	.	.	.	.	.
1 Black Bay School -	18	10	28	12	9	21	.	.	.	6	4	10	.	.	.	4	2	6	8	4	12	3	2	5	5	3	8	.	.	.	2	2	4
1 Roman Catholic School.	28	6	34	18	6	24	.	.	.	6	.	6	.	.	.	6	6	12	16	.	16	6	.	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	6	.	6
PARISH OF ST. MARK.																																	
1 St. Mark's Parochial School.	61	47	108	43	31	74	.	.	.	10	8	18	13	9	22	.	.	.	38	30	68	9	7	16	13	9	22	.	.	.	24	7	31
PARISH OF ST. PATRICK.																																	
1 St. Patrick's Parochial School.	31	5	36	27	3	30	10	1	11	.	.	.	17	2	19	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	1	8	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	1	8
1 Roman Catholic School.	35	8	43	25	4	29	.	.	.	8	.	8	4	3	7	6	.	6	17	5	22	5	3	8	4	2	6	.	.	.	5	3	8
PARISH OF ST. ANDREW.																																	
Grenville Parochial School.	31	6	37	26	5	31	.	.	7	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	4	.	.	4	In a temporary											
Wesleyan School -	57	8	65	46	4	50	10	.	10	8	.	8	.	.	.	39	8	47	.	.	.	14	.	14	.	.	.	.	.	.	18	.	18
Roman Catholic School.	41	4	45	25	2	27	2	2	4	8	.	8	4	.	4	10	2	12	17	.	17	8	.	8	6	.	6	2	.	2	4	.	4
PARISH OF ST. DAVID.																																	
St. David's Glebe School.	10	8	18	8	6	14	.	.	.	6	2	8	.	.	.	4	4	8	.	2	2	6	.	6	.	4	4	.	.	.	6	2	8
St. Clement's School	20	6	26	19	4	23	12	3	15	.	.	.	8	3	11	.	.	.	.	.	.	13	1	14	.	.	.	13	1	14	9	5	14
Roman Catholic School.	23	.	26	20	.	20	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	11	.	11	15	.	15	5	.	5	3	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.
Roman Catholic School.	19	21	40	15	18	33	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	12	10	22	7	11	18	6	.	6	10	5	15	.	.	.	.	.	.
CARRIACOU.																																	
Parochial School -	41	23	64	37	12	49	16	8	24	.	.	.	.	.	.	9	7	16	16	8	24	16	8	24	18	9	27	7	.	7	18	9	27
Top Hill School -	23	9	35	20	7	27	6	1	7	4	.	4	.	.	.	12	4	16	4	4	8	5	.	5	4	4	8	.	.	.	5	.	5
Harvey Vale School	57	16	73	50	14	64	9	3	12	5	.	5	.	.	.	35	10	45	8	3	11	13	3	16	10	3	13	4	.	4	9	3	12
Glebe School -	32	23	55	25	15	40	5	.	5	4	2	6	.	.	.	6	1	7	17	20	37	4	1	5	4	1	5	.	.	.	4	.	4
Roman Catholic School.	26	17	43	18	17	35	4	2	6	8	2	10	4	5	9	2	1	3	8	7	15	8	.	8	4	1	5	1	.	1	3	3	8
Total - -	958	524	1482	705	304	1039	145	57	215	138	77	224	71	46	150	248	114	378	300	184	515	251	86	337	163	117	280	78	6	84	219	103	322

the Island of Grenada for the Year 1855.

eography.			History.			Grammar.			Needle-work.	Catechism.			Rate of School Fees per Week.	Amount of Fees received per Annum.	Salary and Allowances per Annum.	Names of Teachers.	Number of Monitors.			Other Employments.	Remarks.
	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.					Boys.	Girls.	Total.		
														£ s. d.	£ s. d.						
.	.	.	.	.	.	23	23	46	59	70	59	129	Nil.	Nil.	80 0 0 40 0 0	Alex. Purcell - Ht. Turnbull.	.	.	.	- - -	School buildings belong to the society for the education of the poor. Boys and girls in separate rooms. The matron has quarters in the premises rent free.
not taught.									8	5	14	19	3d.	1 0 0	25 0 0	Sarah Bredin -	.	.	.	- - -	School-house rented by colony at 10l. The children from this school, as soon as sufficiently advanced, are drafted to the central school.
3	32		29	3	32	29	3	32	.	76	25	101	3d. & 4d.	9 5 9	70 0 0	J. A. Campbell -	4	2	6	- - -	Premises belong to the Wesleyan Missionary Society.
			No Return.						12	9	8	17	3d.	Nil.	30 0 0	J. T. Gomas -	.	.	.	- - -	Kept in premises rented by the master.
turn.									8	9	12	21	3d.	Nil.	30 0 0	E. A. M'Ewen -	.	.	.	- - -	In a house built by public subscription on lands granted by the proprietors for the purpose.
			No proper Return.						8	4	11	15	3d.	Nil.	35 0 0	E. M'Barnett -	.	.	.	- - -	St. Paul's Chapel at Perdmontemps.
1	5		4	1	5	4	1	5	11	20	11	31	Nil.	Nil.	30 0 0	James Fleming Jane S. Fleming	.	.	.	- - -	In a cottage lent by Messrs. Hankey of Beausejour Estate, in part of which teachers reside rent free.
2	9		12	4	16	4	2	6	4	48	26	74	3d.	3 0 0	15 0 0	Philip J. Purcell Emily Purcell.	3	3	6	- - -	Constantine Chapel in the Grand Etang Road. Teachers residence close by, free.
2	8		9	6	15	5	2	7	5	26	11	37	3d.	2 10 0	46 5 0	A. H. Steill - Georgiana Steill	.	.	.	- - -	Woburn Chapel in the Coliviny Road. Teacher has a free residence near by.
19	42		.	.	.	6	19	25	36	42	36	78	1½d.&3d	0 16 0 4 2 6	25 0 0 25 0 0	Samuel Jones - S. S. Millard -	6	3	9	Parish clerk at 20l., and Vestry clerk, 4l.	The school is church property, built on part of the glebe, divided into two rooms for boys and girls.
.	.		.	.	.	.	.	.	11	49	49	98	1½d.	2 0 0	30 0 0	Paulina Scott -	4	6	10	- - -	School held in the mistress' dwelling, rent of which, 15l., paid out of her salary.
			Now closed.						6	10	5	15	Nil.	Nil.	30 0 0	R. A. Garrett, assisted by wife.	2	2	4	- - -	A building on Black Bay Estate at public expense, but land granted by proprietor so long only as a school shall be held therein. Teacher resides under same roof, free. Closed at present.
			No Return.						.	28	6	34	3d.	Nil.	.	—— Best -	.	.	.	- - -	Kept in Roman Catholic Church, Gowyase.
7	18		.	.	.	.	2	2	16	61	47	108	.	.	50 0 0	Joseph Hosten - Margaret Hosten.	4	4	8	Parish clerk, 10l.	In Parish Church, Grandpauvre.
			No Return. Closed.						.	31	5	36	.	.	50 0 0	Henry Jas. Baker	.	.	.	Parish clerk at 20l.	This school is ecclesiastical property in Sauteur Town, with quarters up stairs for teacher. Closed since November last.
			No Return.						.	35	8	43	.	.	30 0 0	M. J. De Coteau	.	.	.	- - -	Roman Catholic Church, Sauteur.
te of abeyance.									.	31	6	37	.	.	40 0 0	Miss Chapman -	.	.	.	Parish clerk, 20l.	In a house in Grenville Town, the rent of which, 6l. 5s., is paid by public. Former master was parish clerk at 20l. At present in a state of abeyance, and only temporarily attended to by a matron.
			No Return.						.	57	8	65	3d.	9 3 0	75 0 0	A. H. Rapier -	.	.	.	- - .	School-house belongs to the society erected on lands granted by proprietor of Grand Bras Estate.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	41	4	45	.	Nil.	30 0 0	John B. Proten -	.	.	.	- - -	Roman Catholic Church, Grenville
			No Return.						6	10	8	18	3d.	1 0 0	40 0 0	Mrs. Jones -	.	.	.	- . -	In a building erected by public or church lands, in which the teacher resides rent free.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	20	6	26	3d.	Nil.	40 0 0	Philip Palmer, assisted by wife.	.	.	.	Parish clerk at 15l., clerk to magistrates 30l., donation from Ladies' Society 5l.	St. Clement's Chapel, with teacher's residence attached, free.
			No Return.						.	26	.	26	Nil.	Nil.	15 0 0	Alex. Dubissett	.	.	.	- - -	In master's house on his estate.
			No Return.						14	19	21	40	.	.	15 0 0	Mrs. Bontemps -	.	.	.	- - -	In premises rented for the purpose by matron.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	10	41	23	64	2d. & 3d.	8 2 0	45 0 0	W. H. Nash - Barbara Nash.	4	4	8	- - -	In Hillsborough. Church property. Teachers reside therein rent free.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	26	9	35	2d. & 3d.	4 10 0	16 13 8	Joseph Modeste	2	1	3	- - -	Private property. Lent rent free.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	57	16	73	2d. & 3d.	2 5 0	15 17 6	Wm. Douglas -	3	1	4	- - -	Ditto ditto.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	32	23	55	2d. & 3d.	0 4 7	16 5 0	Cato Prime -	4	.	4	- - -	Ditto ditto.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4d.	2 4 0	30 0 0	A. Vcancroon -	1	.	1	- - -	Kept part of the year in Roman Catholic Church, now in a house rented by the priest at 5l. per annum.
0	34	114	54	14	68	71	52	123	218	883	457	1340	.	50 2 10	1050 1 2		37	26	63		

GRENADA.

No. 16.

No. 16.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor HINCKS to the Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 29.)

Windward Islands, Barbados, 7 July 1856.

SIR, (Received August 2, 1856.)

WITH reference to my Despatch No. 18. of the 2d May last, forwarding a Despatch from Lieutenant Governor Keate containing his observations on the state and prospects of the Island of Grenada, I have now the honour to forward to you a Despatch from the Administrator of the Government forwarding the Blue Book of that colony for the year 1855, and supplying certain information which I called for in a Despatch I had addressed to the several Lieutenant Governors of the Islands in his Government, a copy of which I have the honour to transmit to you.

No. 55. 25 June 1856.

No. 19. 22 April 1856.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. 1. in No. 16.

Enclosure 1. in No. 16.

(No. 19.)

SIR, Windward Islands, Barbados, April 22, 1856.

As the time approaches when your Excellency will have to make your annual Report to accompany the Blue Book for 1855, I venture to suggest how desirable it is that it should be accompanied with as much statistical information as possible with reference to the state of the colony under your government.

2. In Grenada there is a large quantity of Crown land, and it would be important to have a statement of the quantity available, whether it is for sale to the public, and if so on what terms, and whether the custom of squatting prevails to any extent.

3. It is also very desirable to ascertain the employments of the Negro population not engaged in the culture of sugar, and whether they are acquiring property and of industrious habits, or, as is represented to be the case in some colonies, abandoned to slothful habits, and content with the mere necessaries of life.

4. You will probably be able to furnish information as to the number of sugar estates now in operation, as well as the number of acres in cane cultivation, and the number of labourers employed on the sugar estates, with the rates of wages, and whether the labourer is allowed a house and provision grounds, also the number of estates which have been abandoned, and the cause so far as it can be ascertained.

5. It would likewise be interesting to know the cost of sugar free on board at the port of shipping, classifying the various items of which the cost is made up, and also the freight, and various charges attending its sale. I will be prepared to give you reliable information of a similar kind from this island, where the cultivation is very profitably carried on.

6. It is stated by Governor Lord Harris, in his Despatch to the Secretary of State of 21 February 1848 forwarding the Trinidad Blue Book for 1847, that "it will be conceded "by all that an allowance of one person for two hogsheads of sugar (including the work of "men, women, and children) is amply sufficient, or rather that a population of 100 persons "is able to produce 200 hogsheads, and that the aged and sick may be included in that "number. It might be done with less; in fact, there are those who have assured me that "they can manage with the work of from 30 to 50 for 200 hogsheads."

7. I have no return before me showing what proportion of the 31,000 inhabitants of Grenada is engaged in agricultural pursuits. In Barbados I find that rather more than one fourth of the whole population is so employed, and it is evident that no children or people unable to work are included in the return.

8. If the statement of Lord Harris be correct, and if one fourth of the Grenada population be engaged in agricultural pursuits, then there ought to be a most ample supply of labour for the quantity of sugar which has been produced for some years back.

9. You will I have no doubt be good enough to consider this question in all its bearings, it being the one of the greatest practical importance, and especially in view of the general demand for imported labour.

10. You will likewise I am sure direct your attention to the exports of provisions. It is important that accurate returns should be made to the customs of the exports of all articles coming under this head.

11. It seems to me that as the export of sugar is falling off, while the great mass of the people are in the enjoyment of even greater comforts than formerly, there must be a considerable increase in the exports of other articles.

12. It is very desirable also to examine minutely the causes of the falling off in the import duties, and especially to point out the articles in which consumption has diminished.

13. I should suppose that it would be found that the importation of Indian meal and other articles of provisions had declined, owing to the increased production in the island of articles used as substitutes. Horses, mules, and oxen likewise, I should suppose, cannot be imported in such numbers as when the sugar cultivation was more prosperous.

14. If the information can be got, it would be desirable, in giving the number of estates in cultivation, to state whether the proprietors are resident or non-resident.

15. It would also be important to report the number of small properties, distinguishing those under one acre, one and under five, five and under ten, and over ten.

16. I have no doubt that most if not all of these subjects have occupied your attention. Some of them were adverted to in your last report, and in others information was promised. As, however, the substance of this despatch is intended for the other islands of this Government, I thought it better to notice the principal points in which there is often a deficiency of information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

The Lieutenant Governor of Grenada,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2. in No. 16.

Encl. 2. in No. 16.

(No. 55.)

SIR, Government House, Grenada, June 25th, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to forward your Excellency the Blue Book of this Government for 1855.

In anticipation of this document I observe that my predecessor has already reported on the condition and prospects of the island for the past year. It only remains for me, therefore, to supply, as far as I can, the information required by your despatch of the 22d of April last.

2. There is not so great a quantity of Crown land in Grenada as might be supposed from the primitive appearance of the country. In the year 1801, the date of the last authentic survey of the island, there were of 76,538, the total acreage of the island, little more than 2,000 acres ungranted. These lands, which still remain the property of the Crown, are situated in the centre of the island near the Grand Etang, are said to be unhealthy spots, and are consequently not sought after in a country where many more convenient and salubrious locations are to be had on terms equally favourable as could be offered by the Government.

There is no fixed or published statement of the terms on which this land would be assigned to individuals, but there would be no difficulty in making it available on the easiest terms to any one who might offer either as renter or purchaser.

As an instance of the facility with which land may now be had here, it has been mentioned to me that it has become a practice with the proprietors of some abandoned estates, and of others who have more or less recently betaken themselves to cocoa planting, to give almost any amount of land to the labourers rent free, on the conditions that cocoa is planted as soon as the land is cleared and ready for provisions, and that when the cocoa begins to bear, which is in about four years, the proprietor is at liberty to resume, in which case either an arrangement is made for the continued cultivation and reaping of the cocoa on the metairie or share system, or another piece of land is assigned to the labourer on the same terms as the first. In the finest part of the island cleared lands are rented for the cultivation of provisions on the most moderate terms, and to labourers on estates ground for their own use is unsparingly allotted as an inducement to even occasional work.

Under such circumstances it will not surprise your Excellency to learn that the Crown lands of Grenada are not in requisition, and that there is no squatting, and no temptation to squat on them, where the people have such abundant facilities for settling in healthier places, with readier means of transporting their produce to market.

3. With regard to the Negro population not engaged in the production of sugar, it appears that many whose previous employment on sugar estates had given them the means, have acquired property, generally restricted in extent, however, to the power of cultivation by one or two hands.

They principally confine themselves to the growth of provisions, though in some cases, in imitation of larger proprietors near them, they are beginning to grow cocoa, and when bordering on sugar works they not unfrequently plant canes. It is stated that these people are industrious in their way, and for themselves, and fond of money, which they hoard and hide. I am not able from experience to speak yet of their habits, but the impression that the negro is given to amassing and secreting his gains is not confined to Grenada. In Barbados particularly the belief prevails that a considerable amount of money is buried every week, and that vast quantities of coin lie hidden in the earth; but the opinion rests on mere surmise, while, on the other hand, we have the fact that for years together the weekly issue of silver for the wages of the labourers on the various estates in Barbados invariably found its way back to the Colonial Bank, under the most

GRENADA.

trifling deduction, within the next eight days, and through the hands of the country shopkeepers or the dry good merchants in Bridgetown.

As regards Grenada, your Excellency will observe that of the total value of the imports in 1855 considerably more than one half was of unenumerated articles, which comprise the linens, cottons, and other goods of British manufacture, the great bulk of them purchased by the peasant, and was nearly equal to the declared value of all the sugar exported from the island in the same period. It is worth remarking that the importation of what are called dry goods has declined in the same proportion with the staple produce.

If to the above amount we add the value of the salt fish and other articles of import wholly consumed by the negro, it must be inferred that, whatever may be said of their industry, there cannot be a very general indisposition to part with the money when got, or to indulge in somewhat more than the mere necessaries of life.

It will yet be said that cases of this concealment of money were developed during the cholera; but because we read occasionally in a provincial newspaper of the death of some unhappy man leaving large sums of money stowed away in old matresses and such places of concealment, nobody would think of putting down the English as a nation of misers.

4. The number of sugar estates now in cultivation is 75, at the commencement of the century the number was 122, between 1801 and 1848 about 30 estates were abandoned, and since 1848 some 15 or 17 more. Nine more are reported to be in a state of decadence and about to be abandoned.

The number of acres in canes has been returned to me at 5,880; but it will not be possible, and indeed for reasons which I will presently state it would answer no useful purpose, to inform your Excellency how many labourers are employed on the sugar estates. The rate of wages in St. Andrew and St. Patrick, the two chief sugar growing parishes, is from eightpence to a shilling a day; where eightpence is given a house is allowed, and as much land, rent-free, as the labourer chooses to cultivate.

No work is performed on any sugar plantation on the Saturday. The planters have endeavoured to establish as a rule that, provided the labourer will work during five successive weeks of five days of nine hours, he shall be allowed for himself every sixth week, and any quantity of land he may choose to cultivate, besides a house or cottage free of rent; but it cannot be said that the labourers have acquiesced in this arrangement.

Your Excellency inquires the causes which may have led to the abandonment of sugar estates. To say simply that it has been because they were no longer remunerative would scarcely convey a sufficient notion of the real state of the case. Some proprietors had neither the means nor the credit to enable them to carry on a losing concern, others having the means renounced further outlay where year after year there was no return. In several of these cases it is asserted that there was an absolute impossibility to obtain the requisite amount of labour except by an inordinate increase of wages which would soon have defeated itself. Of two adjoining estates belonging to the same proprietor one was abandoned that the labour of the people located on both might be concentrated on the remaining property. In the case of a property called the Palmiste, abandoned within the last few months, there was but a scanty supply of labour, the estate at best was not capable of making a great deal of sugar, the works required rebuilding, and the price of sugar in the home market was not such as to warrant the expense. Many estates have retrograded from the attempts to carry them on with insufficient means; the present year too it is said will prove a most severe trial for numbers of the planters. Your Excellency is aware that the practice of ratooning is carried on in Grenada on the same land for many successive years. The drought which has recently afflicted the island has in a number of places completely destroyed the cane, and many who have thus suffered can neither procure the labour nor plants necessary for their replacement; a quantity of the amount of land usually in cane will therefore be thrown out of cultivation this year.

The truth of the whole matter, however, is simply this: Here, as elsewhere, properties yielding a small amount of sugar rarely paid. The means and appliances for making 150 hogsheads were little more than were required to take off 100. If this rule held good in times when labour was under control and the prices of sugar were high, how much more must it operate in the present state of both the produce and the labour market. It has only been by largely extending his cultivation that the planter in any of these islands has been able to meet the altered condition of commerce and to keep his head above water. This as a whole Grenada has not been able to do, for, added to the difficulties with which she has had to contend principally from the dearth of hands, the cultivation of a sugar estate in this island is from natural causes most laborious and expensive.

5. With regard to the cost at which sugar is put on board of ship, and the expense of freight and charges on sale, your Excellency will see from the Despatch which my predecessor wrote to Sir William Colebrooke on the 22d September 1855 that there has been a difficulty in procuring reliable information. But I am happy to have it in my power to enclose a statement received only yesterday from the agent of the largest proprietor in Grenada of the expenses of working six estates in different parts of the island for several years back, and of the amount of their produce in sugar. I should observe that the outlay detailed in this document covered the expenses also of the rum made on each estate, which may be calculated at sixty gallons to every hogshead of sugar. The freight and expenses on the sale of each hogshead may be put down as nearly as possible at twenty shillings per

hundredweight, and the hogshead may be calculated on the average of sixteen hundredweight.

6. 7. 8. 9. In 1851 it was computed that the number of "field labourers" without comprising the sick and infirm and the unemployed children, amounted to 13,110, considerably more than one third of the population. But very few of these can be said to labour continuously on sugar properties. Most of them direct their principal attention to their own provision grounds, and give only an occasional day's labour to the sugar estate. Many never work at all except on their own little holdings. There are no data therefore to enable us to estimate the proportions of labour and produce in the manufacture of sugar.

The statement of Lord Harris to which your Excellency refers is evidently based on a system of steady and continuous labour, which does not exist here.

Still I transmit an estimate which has been formed of the labour required to cultivate an acre of land yielding two hogsheads of sugar, and which has been prepared by the same gentleman to whom I am indebted for the previous return.

10. The only provisions of the export of which returns are required to be made are yams. The official accounts show that the average quantity exported in the three last years is far below what it was in the three previous years. There is no doubt, however, that a quantity of this vegetable and of plantains and fruit are yearly carried away to Trinidad in small decked boats from the creeks and bays round the island, and quite beyond all Custom House control. The surplus, after supplying their own wants, is taken to market.

11. Of all the articles of export, after sugar and rum, cocoa occupies the most prominent place. It is in everybody's mouth. I have heard it insisted on at the Council table that cocoa is to save the island. How far the preparations for increasing the crop of this article have gone it is impossible for me to say, but the following memorandum of the quantity exported in the last six years shows no great nor gradual stride in its production.

1850	- - -	4882 Bags.
1851	- - - -	3921 ,,
1852	- - -	3877 ,,
1853	- - - -	4902 ,,
1854	- - -	5207 ,,
1855	- - - -	5069 ,,

There is a move reported too in the growth of spices. All the coffee produced in the island is consumed in it, and there is not one article of export, such as ground nuts, arrowroot, ginger, building lime, charcoal, firewood, which I can name to your Excellency as having recently much exceeded the average of former years.

12, 13. There has been, as your Excellency anticipates, a serious decrease in the importation of flour, cornmeal, and rice in the year 1855, as compared with previous years; but flour and other breadstuffs have during the war been nearly double their former prices; and the consumption of these articles and the introduction of cattle have been seriously affected by the withdrawal of the troops. I will take an early opportunity, however, of carrying these comparative statements back for a number of years, and of submitting them for your Excellency's examination.

14. Of the 75 estates now in operation 38 belong to absentee proprietors, 24 to residents, and 13 are cultivated by lessees.

15. There are no means on record of furnishing your Excellency with a return of the number of small proprietors here, but immediate attention will be given to the subject, and I have no doubt that we shall very soon be able to supply you with the information.

16. You will be good enough I am sure to excuse such a meagre answer to your despatch; but I am unwilling at this late period of the year to detain the Blue Book.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WALKER.

His Excellency Governor Hincks,
&c. &c. &c.

GRENADA.

TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSES of the under-numbered ESTATES and CROPS shipped during Seven Years, from 1849 to 1855.

No. of Estates	Labour Wages Account. £ s. d.	Lumber and Stave Account. £ s. d.	European Supply. £ s. d.	Salary Account. £ s. d.	Incidental Account. £ s. d.	Total for the Year. £ s. d.	Sugar Shipment. Hhds.	£ s. d.
No. 1.								
1849	616 5 1	160 10 0	257 5 4	413 6 4½	128 4 4½	1,575 11 2	106	
1850	641 4 2	302 12 6½	287 14 7	469 3 3½	364 8 8½	2,065 3 2½	165	
1851	653 6 1½	278 15 1	417 9 1	508 17 2	218 0 0	2,076 7 5½	179	
1852	625 2 5	166 7 7	388 13 9	516 6 1	131 4 1	1,827 13 11	182	
1853	667 6 4	265 17 1	327 2 4	527 9 11	152 0 2	1,939 15 10	135	
1854	627 14 5	177 19 11	296 17 10	457 10 2	158 17 7	1,718 19 11	161	
1855	647 6 10	217 1 5	422 10 10	525 6 7	109 15 5½	1,922 1 1½	127	
						13,125 12 8½	1,055	12 9 7 per Hhd.
No. 2.								
1849	524 15 10	166 11 8	144 15 4	437 2 7½	121 3 5	1,394 8 10½	122	A new Iron water wheel paid for.
1850	538 10 10	188 10 0	228 18 2¾	452 6 6½	97 16 9	1,506 2 3¾	137	
1851	584 11 6	212 7 3½	297 12 7	492 10 10	135 4 3½	1,722 6 6	163	
1852	640 1 10	147 12 10	332 7 2	412 19 5	138 11 8	2,171 12 11	178	
1853	587 11 8	145 7 5	280 10 4	518 7 11½	74 14 7½	1,606 12 0	95	
1854	528 2 1	104 18 0	276 14 8	434 8 10	92 7 11½	1,436 11 6½	116	
1855	477 10 8	121 19 7½	275 11 2	426 6 8	87 2 3½	1,388 10 5	75	
						11,226 4 6¾	886	12 13 5 per Hhd.
No. 3.								
1849	446 18 0	98 15 10½	117 9 6	324 15 4	30 10 0	1,018 8 8½	57	A very laborious Estate.
1850	453 11 9	132 16 8	160 8 6½	381 13 8½	39 15 3	1,168 5 11	93	
1851	453 16 0½	100 1 2½	182 12 10	363 2 4	56 14 1½	1,156 6 6½	82	
1852	444 7 5	33 15 6	191 0 4	326 4 11½	42 4 2½	1,037 12 5	61	
1853	428 16 8	90 9 1	150 9 7	315 17 5	29 1 8	1,014 14 5	60	
1854	344 14 0¾	65 4 4	197 12 9	358 1 1	17 2 7	982 14 9¾	72	
1855	295 16 6	52 0 11	201 18 11	323 14 5	10 6 11	883 17 8	55	
						7,262 0 5¾	480	15 2 7 per Hhd.
No. 4.								
1849	852 2 7	191 14 5	199 6 2	629 13 8½	255 2 10½	2,127 19 9	133	A new Iron water wheel and a mill paid for.
1850	956 13 7	270 0 8	661 11 7	701 8 6	175 19 4	2,765 13 8	195	
1851	935 2 9	308 6 11½	366 6 6	761 17 11	124 2 11	2,495 17 0½	227	
1852	890 17 0	190 17 9	373 7 11	790 10 11	97 0 1	2,342 13 8	236	
1853	804 7 2	264 12 11	432 13 10	654 7 8	50 15 3	2,206 16 10	164	
1854	726 11 10	151 3 7	376 15 9	715 8 1	97 15 3	2,067 14 6	188	
1855	578 12 1	66 17 2	346 16 3	683 4 11	271 15 2	1,947 5 7	106	
						15,954 1 0½	1,249	12 15 0 per Hhd.
No. 5.								
1849	573 5 1	152 5 7	136 0 2	415 19 0	35 7 7	1,312 17 5	95	
1850	585 0 3	178 10 9½	187 6 11¼	451 14 9	100 12 7	1,503 5 3¾	112	
1851	642 7 11	161 13 0½	230 2 3	470 0 4½	75 17 4	1,580 0 11	146	
1852	694 2 9	60 10 9	316 15 9	443 14 8	24 13 8	1,539 17 7	112	
1853	663 8 1	221 3 6	186 6 8	422 7 3½	34 15 3½	1,528 0 10	111	
1854	605 1 3	92 9 1	256 0 10	378 16 0	107 13 9½	1,440 0 11½	99	
1855	571 8 2	104 8 10½	252 6 5	362 14 10	45 5 2	1,336 3 5½	82	
						10,240 6 5¾	757	13 10 6 per Hhd.
No. 6.								
1849	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	A new steam-engine and mill paid for.
1850	591 4 5	92 3 8	178 1 9	316 2 11	152 11 3	1,330 4 0	96	
1851	624 0 4	310 17 6	364 11 2	280 15 9	327 8 1½	1,907 12 10½	118	
1852	711 18 7	126 16 6½	430 11 9	337 2 4	145 15 11½	1,752 5 2	143	
1853	694 0 2	210 3 10	1,429 0 3	336 8 6	256 3 3	2,925 16 0	133	
1854	637 13 5	174 16 6	453 8 6	320 9 9	155 7 1½	1,741 15 3½	115	
1855	630 2 1	139 3 10½	459 16 7	328 17 5	92 16 1½	1,650 16 1	92	
						11,308 9 5	697	16 4 6 per Hhd.

Manual Labour required, according to the manner in which the Grenada first-class people generally work, to cultivate an acre of land, from four to six years in fallow, calculated to make 2 hhds. sugar, say 16 cwt. net at Queen's Beam.

		£	s.	d.
Clearing bush and burning same 20 days, at 10*d.* per day		0	16	8
Holing 5 × 4 feet 5 to 6 inches deep at 10*d.* per day	34 days	1	8	4
Cross holing same at 10*d.* per day	18 do.	0	15	0
Cutting and carrying plants and planting at 10*d.* per day	12 do.	0	10	0
Manuring, cutting, throwing, and covering pen manure at 10*d.*	75 do.	3	2	6
Weeding and supplying the young plants 1st time at 10*d.*	12 do.	0	10	0
2d weeding at 10*d.*	10 do.	0	8	4
3d weeding at 10*d.*	8 do.	0	6	8
4th weeding at 10*d.*	8 do.	0	6	8
5th trashing at 10*d.*	6 do.	0	5	0
	203 days	8	9	2
Cutting the canes at 10*d.*	22 do.	0	18	4
Carting to the mill at 10*d.*	10 do.	0	8	4
Manufacturing into sugar	22 do.	0	18	4
Total	257 days	10	14	2
Cost of 2 new hogsheads for sugar		1	14	0
Carting and shipping		0	2	0
Total		12	10	2

A hundredweight of Grenada sugar is subjected to the following charges in the London market as per account states:—

Duty 13*s.* 9*d.* at 15*s.* per cwt.
Freight 3*s.* 6*d.* at 4*s.* per cwt.
Insurance bkge. and other charges 2*s.* 6*d.* - £1 1 6.
On the average not under 19*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*

TOBAGO.

No. 17.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Hincks to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 44.) Windward Islands, Barbados, July 7, 1856.
(Received August 2, 1856.)

Sir,

In transmitting to you the Blue Book for Tobago for the year 1855, with the accompanying Report, it is with very great satisfaction that I bear my testimony to the services rendered by Lieutenant Governor Shortland in introducing into that colony an improved system of administration. No. 56. June 16, 1856.

2. The success which has attended the new system in Tobago affords convincing proof that, even in those colonies which are least populous, and apparently least able to cope with the difficulties caused by the abandonment of the sugar estates, owing to insolvency or non-residence, the wisest policy is to rely with confidence on the energy of the resident proprietor.

3. While I entertain no doubt that the development of the system of government introduced in Tobago will be attended with satisfactory results in any colony on which similar privileges may be conferred, it would be injustice to Lieutenant Governor Shortland not to acknowledge that the success which has attended his administration in Tobago has been owing in a great degree to his tact and judgment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

The Right Hon.
H. Labouchere, M.P.

TOBAGO.

Encl. in No. 17.

Enclosure in No. 17.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor SHORTLAND to Governor HINCKS.

(No. 56.)

SIR, Government House, June 16, 1856.

1. I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the Blue Book for the year 1855, accompanied by the usual comparative abstracts of the principal returns.

2. It affords me much satisfaction to be able to take a more encouraging view of the prospects of this colony than circumstances have permitted on any former occasion. In my last Report I drew attention to some improvement in the organization of the departments, and to an Act which had been passed by this Legislature "for the better Government of the Island." To the success which has attended the operation of this law is to be attributed the improvement which has since arisen.

3. The state of things which existed before the new system was introduced ensured the perpetual discord which it has been the task of my predecessors and myself so continually to describe: each branch of the Legislature acting independently of the other, with an opposition in the House of Assembly jealous of the least exercise of executive power, however necessary, and able to venture on the expression of any opinions without the risk of being called on to give practical effect to them, it can readily be imagined that all useful or simultaneous action became impossible.

4. The appointment of an Executive Committee under the authority of the new law has tended to remove many of those hindrances to good government before found so difficult to surmount. It must not be expected that differences and conflicts will not arise again; I am led, however, to hope that their nature and objects will be changed. The position now held by the Governor will enable him to act a mediatory part between rival parties, and he will no longer be regarded the natural antagonist of all. In matters purely of an executive nature everything has proceeded favourably, and I see no reason to anticipate any interruption.

5. I will now offer a few observations on the various heads of service which appear to me to give occasion for remark, and especially on the subjects to which your Excellency has directed attention in your Despatch, No. 29, of the 22d of April last.

Value of Imports:
1854. 52,307*l.*
1855. 37,425*l.*
Decrease on the importation,—
Of wheat, 797 bush.
Of bread, 197 brls.
Of rice, 1,390 cwt.
Plantation stores and British goods, 9,741*l.*

6. Under the head of imports it will be seen that the value for the year 1855 shows a diminution on the previous year, amounting to 14,882*l.* The accompanying comparative statement will explain how this has arisen: it appears that the quantity of provisions imported became largely reduced, which may be accounted for partly by the falling off of the crop, but more particularly by the very abundant supply of ground provisions and Indian corn grown in the island. The supplies from England for the estates, too, were greatly diminished: this principally arose from the contracted operations of the absentee proprietors, to which I directed attention in my last Report.

7. The exports, which depend wholly on the sugar crop, also show a considerable reduction over former years—mainly attributable to an unfavourable season. The number of hogsheads of sugar shipped amounted to only 2,579. The deficiency will to a great extent be made up by the productive crop of this year, which is expected to reach 3,800 hogsheads.

8. In reply to your Excellency's inquiry respecting the exportation of provisions, I may remark, that they are not grown in sufficient quantities to form a regular export, nor do I believe they will so long as sugar culture continues to be more profitable.

Revenue:
1854. 8,014*l.*
1855. 8,581*l.*
Tariff duties:
1854. 3,729*l.*
1855. 3,509*l.*

9. The revenue returns show some improvement in the amount collected during the year 1855 over the collections of the previous year. Even the tariff duties, notwithstanding the reduced value of the imports, proved but slightly less productive. This may be accounted for by better collection, owing to the changes which were introduced into the organization of the Treasury department.

10. The management of all financial matters having now passed under the control of the Executive Committee, the causes which led to former monetary embarrassments have been mainly removed. The progress which has already been made encourages the hope that still further improvements will be as readily effected. With a view to secure an easy and equitable mode of raising an adequate revenue in future, an Act was lately passed by the Legislature which authorizes the preparation of valuation rolls of all lands and tenements in the respective parishes of the island, setting forth the names of the owners and occupiers, with the annual value of each holding. This arrangement will remove all difficulty in the adjustment of the annual taxes.

11. Several other laws have also been passed with the object of reducing public expenditure more within the means of the colony, to meet which the salaries of the public officers have been reduced, but at the same time placed on a more permanent footing. The gradual liquidation of the arrears due to them has also been provided for by the issue of Treasury bills, secured by statute, and made redeemable at fixed periods.

12. I enclose an estimate for the year 1856, and also a copy of the Report of the Financial Committee for the March quarter. It will be perceived, by comparing the estimated expenditure with that authorized by the House of Assembly for former years, that a considerable reduction has been effected. It will also be seen from the Report that the liabilities to be provided for on the 30th instant, above assets, are estimated not to exceed 419*l.* 17*s.*—a result even more favourable than I had been led to anticipate.

Estimate for 1856.

Report of Financial Committee.

Estimated Expenditure for 1856, 8,675*l.*

Expenditure authorized by law for the years,—

1853.	11,679*l.*
1854.	10,899*l.*
1855.	9,137*l.*

Estimated Liabilities on the 30th June 1856, 419*l.* 17*s*

13. Public works have made some progress. The military prison at Fort "King George" has been converted into a very excellent convict prison, at a moderate expense to the colony, a great proportion of the work having been executed by the prisoners. A Bill is now before the Legislative Houses to authorize the removal of the remaining prisoners confined in Scarborough Gaol to the military hospital, which now forms a portion of the prison lands and buildings. The necessary accommodation can be constructed from funds already appropriated, without any additional grant. These arrangements will effectually set at rest a question long the source of much contention between the Executive and the House of Assembly.

14. By an Act lately passed, courts of petty sessions have been established in the towns and districts of this island. It had long been the practice for the magistrates to hold courts in their private residences, at such times as each individual might think fit. The change appears to give universal satisfaction, and has removed a cause of much well-founded discontent. Another enactment authorizes appeals to the Chief Justice against decisions of the justices.

15. The enclosed comparative return, prepared by the Marshal, having reference to the state of crime in this community, may be taken as a fair indication that the late political improvement has acted beneficially on the moral condition of the people, although some portion of the great decrease of crime which is observable is to be attributed to superior gaol discipline, the prison being no longer considered an agreeable residence by the idle and dissolute. It will be seen that the number of convictions for higher offences during the year 1855 was considerably less than for the two former years, whilst the number for minor offences contrasts favourably. This year, up to the present time, the decrease is still greater, the commitments not having averaged more than seven in each month. On the 1st instant there were only seventeen prisoners under confinement in both the gaols.

No. of Prisoners confined in both gaols on the 1st June 1856:

Felons - -	14
Misdemeanor	1
Awaiting trial	1
Debtor -	1
	17

16. I enclose a copy of the Inspector's Report, describing the accommodation afforded by the new convict prison.

Report of Inspector of Prisons, 5th May 1856.

17. The unclaimed lands of this island, to which subject your Excellency has invited my particular attention, I beg to observe are of considerable extent: the exact quantity will be more readily ascertained when the parochial valuation rolls, now in course of preparation, are completed. It is then proposed to enact a law to declare all lands not set forth in the rolls, Crown lands, giving to absentees the power to redeem any lands to which they may prove to be entitled, upon payment of all rates due thereon.

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18. In the present state of the colony, I do not think it would be advisable to offer these lands for sale; they are mostly very remote, and the market is sufficiently provided with lands belonging to absentee proprietors, situate in more eligible localities. It appears to me, every encouragement should be given the absentees to dispose of their lands to residents. Several estates have been sold within the last twelve months, and many others are said to be about to change owners.

19. The information which your Excellency desires respecting cultivated land will also be more correctly ascertained from the rolls. In the meantime, returns are enclosed of the number of estates under sugar cultivation, and of those at present used for growing provisions or depasturing cattle: of the former there are fifty-six; the latter amount to fourteen only. The quantity of land under cane cultivation is very limited, when considering the extent of the island. Three thousand acres, yielding about one hogshead of sugar for each acre, may be assumed as a fair average. The returns also give the names of the resident and non-resident proprietors. It cannot be said that any of the estates are altogether abandoned; I am aware of some which return a rental of 100*l.* a year from provision grounds. The home market is extremely well supplied with corn and ground provisions, and little is imported except on unusually dry seasons. The number of acres planted annually cannot be less than 5,000.

Acres, 5,000.

20. It is computed that the number of labourers engaged in agricultural pursuits amounts to at least 5,000; of these about 3,000 are employed in the culture of sugar. It is difficult to determine how many are employed for hire on sugar estates, but the number is quite equal to the present demand.

Labourers employed in agriculture, 5,000; employed in the production of sugar, 3,000.

21. The rate of wages to a prædial labourer attached to a sugar estate, when occupying a cottage and provision ground rent-free, is 8*d.* a day, and when without privileges, 9*d.* During crop, those who work extra at the mill can earn 1*s.* The second-class labourer receives from 6*d.* to 7*d.* a day; coopers, carpenters, and head men, 1*s.*

22. Your Excellency submits to me the question relative to the employment of the negro population not engaged in the culture of sugar,—"Whether they "are industrious, or, as represented to be the case in some colonies, abandoned "to slothful habits, and content with the mere necessaries of life." The negroes of this island cannot be termed slothful or abandoned; they bear the character of being orderly and well-disposed, and, I believe, deservedly so. The black and coloured classes have acquired a considerable amount of property. Many have raised themselves to the position of lessees of sugar estates, and a spirit of emulation seems to be on the increase. I am aware of offers having been made to proprietors by the negroes to rent estates, and to repair the works at their own cost; indeed, in one instance, three negroes have taken the lease of an abandoned sugar works, and have repaired both the mill and the boiling house. Several other instances might be adduced of equal enterprise. I am not, however, prepared to say that the negro, as a class, can be called industrious, in the true sense attached to the word. He is not fond of continuous labour; but when working for himself, taking the average of a year, performs a considerable quantity of work. When working for hire, he gives his employers the smallest quantity he finds will be submitted to. The struggle, too, never ceases; he must be constantly urged forward, or he would fail to work. Nevertheless, I am induced to extend to him a decided preference over all other labourers for general purposes in a tropical climate.

23. With respect to the question of a further supply of labour for this island, although it cannot be said that any want of labour is experienced, a small addition of Africans, periodically, would be decidedly beneficial.

24. I enclose some calculations of the cost of sugar cultivation, and of the quantity of sugar produced by each negro, taking a general average of every one employed on an estate. From one hogshead to one and a quarter would appear to be about a fair average on estates adequately supplied with labour. This is very much less than the averages given by Lord Harris, alluded to by your Excellency as the result on sugar estates in Trinidad. With respect to "the cost of sugar free on board at the port of shipping," I doubt the possibility of establishing any general rule that would apply in an island like

Tobago, where hardly two proprietors can be found who are conducting operations under circumstances precisely similar. The cost of a hogshead of sugar depends on so many contingencies; for instance, locality, the nature of the soil, the intelligence of the planter, and the capital at command, the season, and, lastly, whether he reside on his estate, or trust its cultivation to an agent. The calculations which I forward lead to the inference that sugar can be produced in this island, under ordinary circumstances, for about 9*l.* the hogshead of fifteen cwt., and I am inclined to believe that it is not usually made for less; indeed, I am given to understand that in the cases of non-residents the expenses usually absorb all the profits. Many years' observation of sugar cultivation in the West Indies leads me to the opinion, that sugar might be produced at a much cheaper rate. I do not think the cost should exceed, on an average, 8*l.* the hogshead, on estates possessing moderate advantages. Skill and capital, however, must be considered indispensable.

25. I enclose a letter from the Colonial Secretary, covering some memoranda prepared by Mr. Child, the Stipendiary Magistrate, and a Report from Mr. R. Rice, the Schoolmaster of the Scarborough School. It is much to be regretted that the exertions of this gentleman in the cause of education are neither appreciated nor supported as he deserves, or I had hoped for. An effort is being made to place the school in a more independent position, and I trust with good prospects of success.

Colonial Secretary, 5th June 1856.

Mr. Rice's Report, 29th May 1856.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, &c. &c.

(Signed) WILLOUGHBY SHORTLAND.

Comparative Statement of the Value of Imports into the Island of Tobago in the Years 1854 and 1855.

	1854.			1855.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
British goods enumerated from Great Britain	14,862	19	10	8,440	10	0¼
" " " British West Indies	15,382	2	2½	12,068	16	0½
Foreign enumerated goods " Great Britain	1,887	4	3	1,932	15	1½
" " " British West Indies	16,063	12	0	13,191	13	5½
Enumerated goods " British West Indies	1,556	13	5	1,791	8	4
" " " United States	2,473	18	4	—		
Foreign States (Oxen)	80	0	0	—		
	52,306	10	0½	37,425	2	11¾

The decrease in the value of imports in 1855, as compared with 1854, as shown above, is principally to be accounted for in the diminished trade with the United Kingdom The crop of 1855 having been considerably less than that of the previous year, induced a corresponding decrease in the imports of plantation stores and British manufactured goods, amounting to 9,741*l.* 16*s.*, from Great Britain and the British West Indies, and also had the effect of diminishing the importations of wheat flour by 797 barrels, bread 197 barrels, rice 1,390 cwt., salted beef and pork 175 barrels, and other articles of general consumption from the United States and the British West Indies. It appears there were no direct importations from the United States and Venezuela in 1855, whilst in 1854 the value of imports from those countries amounted to 2,853*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* Thus the falling off in 1855 to the extent of 14,947*l.* is accounted for.

Fortunately, the very wet weather which prevailed in 1855 caused large crops of plantations and ground provisions to be grown, which made up for the deficiency of imported articles of food, and must have had the effect of preventing much suffering amongst the labouring population.

Chas. A. Berkeley, Treasurer.

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ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE and RECEIPTS at Tobago for the Year 1856.

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Ecclesiastical Establishment	1,160	0	0
Judicial „	800	0	0
Civil „	2,575	8	0
Police „	1,265	0	0
Gaol „	460	0	0
Educational „	160	0	0
Coroner's Inquests	75	0	0
Signal Station	10	0	0
Public Roads	450	0	0
Maintenance and Burial of Paupers	25	0	0
Public Buildings	100	0	0
Quarantine Service	20	0	0
Pensions	32	2	4
Miscellaneous	1,542	10	0
	8,675	0	4

Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
Tonnage and Lighthouse Dues	420	0	0
Tariff Duties	3,900	0	0
15 per cent. additional	450	0	0
Rum and Cocoanuts	250	0	0
Licences	1,400	0	0
Valuation Roll	2,000	0	0
Miscellaneous	300	0	0
	8,720	0	0

REPORT of the Executive Committee of Public Accounts on Receipts, Payments, and Estimates.

The Executive Committee have examined and audited the accounts of receipts and payments at the Treasury during the quarter ending at 31st March, and now lays before the Honourable Houses of Legislature a statement of such receipts and payments, and of the known and presumed liabilities to 30th June 1856.

From this statement it will be seen that at the 30th June, supposing the collections for the present quarter should realize the sum of 3,600*l.* as estimated, the colony will be in arrear the sum of 2,055*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*, which, considering the heavy items in the accounts for the quarter's contingencies to 31st March (as audited by the Committee), shows a more favourable financial position than could reasonably have been expected. But even this sum of 2,055*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* will not be in arrear to personal creditors of the public, inasmuch as that there is included in the said balance of 2,055*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* the sum of 1,159*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* for claims of the Loan Commissioners for warrants for 1854 and 1855, which are not immediately required, thus leaving a deficiency to personal creditors of 895*l.* 17*s.*, and this might be reduced by 476*l.* for Treasury bills, the issue whereof might be claimed by present holders of warrants, thus leaving only 419*l.* 17*s.* to be provided for at 30th June,—a financial position which is cause of congratulation to the Committee, who, by a strict supervision, and the enforcement of a rigid economy in the public expenditure, hope soon to see the revenue of this colony fully adequate to meet its necessary expenses.

JAMES HY. KEENS.
JAMES LEITH.
S. H. FREDERIC ABBOTT.

Executive Committee Room,
7th May 1856.

A true copy.
KAYE DOWLAND,
Colonial Secretary.

RETURN showing the Number of Persons committed to the Common Gaol of Scarborough during the Three Years ending 31st December 1855.

	Felonies, &c.		Minor Offences.		Debtors.		Totals.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1853	21	3	154	15	8	—	183	18
1854	21	1	109	13	13	1	143	15
1855	7	—	92	18	6	4	105	22

NOTE.—In 1853, of the 21 males and 3 females under the head of Felonies, &c., only 16 males and 2 females were convicted. Of Minor Offences, out of 154 males 12 were discharged unconvicted.

In 1854 there were, out of the numbers given under the head Felonies, &c., 9 males and 1 female discharged unconvicted; and under the head Minor Offences, 3 males and 1 female discharged unconvicted.

In 1855 there were, out of the 7 committed for felony, 3 males discharged unconvicted; and of the males committed for minor offences, 2 discharged unconvicted.

RETURN showing the Number of Prisoners under Confinement on the 1st January 1853, and the Average Daily Number confined during each of the Four Quarters of the Years 1853–4–5.

Total number in gaol on 1st January 1853	31
Average daily numbers in each quarter, 1853:	
Quarter ending 31st March	33
„ 30th June	40
„ 30th September	38
„ 31st December	32
Average daily numbers in each quarter, 1854:	
Quarter ending 31st March	41
„ 30th June	41
„ 30th September	44
„ 31st December	47
Average daily numbers in each quarter, 1855:	
Quarter ending 31st March	48
„ 30th June	42
„ 30th September	39
„ 31st December	35

NOTE.—On the 1st June of this year there were only 17 prisoners under confinement in both prisons: viz., felons, 14; misdemeanor, 1; debtor, 1; awaiting trial, 1.

(Signed) CHARLES J. LEPLASTRIER,
Pro MAR. GENERAL.

12th June 1856.

REPORT from W. A. CHILD, Inspector of Gaols, to Lieutenant Governor SHORTLAND.

SIR, Tobago, 5th May 1856.

IN accordance with the 11th clause of the Act "to convert the Military Prison and Cells at Fort King George into a Gaol," I have visited and inspected the said gaol.

I have to report that the military prison, but nothing beyond its walls, has been converted into a suitable convict gaol.

There are two sets of wards for the accommodation of convicts:

1. There are six "dark" wards built of brick, and intended, I presume, for separate imprisonment, but which are each capable of accommodating (as sleeping rooms) two prisoners. They are sufficiently lofty, and well ventilated. Their dimensions are—

	ft.	in.		ft.	in.
Ward No. 1.	10	9½	by	6	2
„ 2.	10	9½	×	6	2
„ 3.	10	9½	×	6	2
„ 4.	10	9½	×	7	2
„ 5.	10	9½	×	7	2
„ 6.	10	9½	×	7	2

2. There are three wards for associated convicts, which are constructed of wood; each of these can accommodate four persons. Their dimensions are—

	ft.		ft.	in.
No. 1.	11	×	8	9½
2.	11	×	8	9½
3.	11	×	8	9½

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The prison, therefore, can easily accommodate twenty-two convicts, allowing one of the dark cells to be used as a temporary hospital; and in an emergency, perhaps five more convicts might be admitted.

I further report that there are ample covered sheds for hard labour within the walls of the gaol.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. A. CHILD,
Inspector of Gaols.

His Excellency
The Lieut.-Governor of Tobago.

RETURN showing Average Number of Labourers employed on an Estate in Tobago during the Crop Season of the Year 1856.

Crop from 95 to 100 hogsheads sugar (40 in truss).
„ 55 puncheons rum.
„ 20 puncheons molasses.

	About the Works.		
	Boilermen		4
	Firemen at coppers	2	3
	Fireman at clarifier	1	
	Dry megass carriers to coppers	4	5
	Dry megass carrier to clarifier	1	
	Engineer		1
	Engine fireman		1
	Mill feeders		2
	Cane carriers		4
	Green megass carriers		4
	Megass turner		1
	Mill bed cleaner		1
	Still fireman		1
	Distillers		2
	In the Field.		
1st gang.	Cutters		10
„	Tiers		4
„	Water carrier		1
„	Superintendent		1
2d gang.	Superintendent (occasionally employed as a jobber)		1
			46

	In the Field.—cont.	
	Brought forward	46
2d. gang.	Boys and girls variously employed drying megass, tending young plants, landing canes on hilly land, &c.	5
	Jobbers.	
	Employed in cutting fuel for the still	1
	Variously employed	1
	Watchmen	2
	Stockkeepers (men and boys)	4
	Chop-pickers and chop-chopper	6
		1
	Cart boy	1
	Cartermen	4
	Leaders	2
	Tradesmen carpenters employed occasionally at their work ramming and potting sugar, &c.	2
	Coopers	2
		77

1¼ hogsheads per head may be taken as about an average.

ESTIMATE of Cost of producing Sugar on an Estate in Tobago making, on an average, 100 Hogsheads Sugar and 56 Puncheons Rum; Hogsheads 40 in truss, Rum 25 overproof.

Cultivation.—Partly level, partly hill sides and gullies, 95 acres in cultivation.
Stock.—10 mules, 20 oxen.
Works.—Steam-engine, condensing, six-horse power, making 2 hogsheads per diem.
Five sugar-pans, two clarifiers, capacity 300 gallons.
A Shear's patent still with three decks; works distant 400 yards from the shipping place.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Labour for twelve months, including tradesmen's work of every description, at 56*l.* per month				672	0	0
Island supplies, including lumber and hard wood for cart wheels				40	0	0
Stores from Europe (including import duty)				360	0	0
Stock purchased, 3 oxen at 10*l.*; 1 mule at 25*l.*				58	0	0
Salaries :—Manager	100	0	0			
Attorney	50	0	0			
Overseer (a negro)	25	0	0			
Engineer	20	0	0			
Bookkeeper	12	10	0			
				207	10	0
Land Tax				26	0	0
Total cost of producing 100 hogsheads sugar and 50 puncheons rum				1,363	10	0
Deduct nett proceeds of rum, at 9*l.*				450	0	0
Cost of producing 100 hogsheads				913	10	0

Cost of producing each hogshead of sugar, 9*l.* 2*s.* 8¼*d.* Say the landing weight of each hogshead is 15 cwt., the cost of producing 1 cwt. sugar will be 12*s.* 1½*d.*

If new machinery were required, an additional outlay would be necessary.

There should also be added some charge for risk of damage by fire, hurricane, or earthquake.

Average number of persons employed during the year, 78, or 19 cwt. sugar and 71 gals. proof rum per head.

Note.—There are only five working days in the week, and nine working hours in each day.

Task is never given during crop, and not always out of crop.

ESTIMATE of the Cost of 1 Hogshead Sugar made on an Estate producing 60 Hogsheads of 40 inch truss, and a proportionate Quantity of Rum, say 20 Puncheons.

Cultivation.—Steep hill sides and deep gullies, 20 acres of plants, 20 acres of first rattoons, 20 acres of second rattoons.

Stock.—20 mules, 16 steers of the yoke, cows, young oxen, and calves; steers supplied by natural increase.

Works.—A mule mill, four sugar-pans, one clarifier with separate fire, capacity 300 gallons, a single goose-necked still; water laid on by a forcing pump; proprietor managing his own estate.

Cultivation.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brushing one acre of land, heavy bush, 9 men, at 8*d.* the task of 1,200 square feet	0	6	0			
1 water-carrier, 6*d.*	0	0	6			
3 men burning bush and cleaning the land, at 8*d.* each	0	2	0			
Holeing 1 acre, 9 men, 3 days, at 8*d.* task 100 holes	0	18	0			
1 water-carrier for 3 days, at 6*d.*	0	1	6			
Cross holeing 1 acre, 3 women, 3 days, at 8*d.* the task of 300 cane holes	0	6	0			
Carrying out manure from field pens, 3 women, 3 days, at 8*d.* for the task of 300 baskets	0	6	0			
1 water-carrier, 3 days, at 6*d.*	0	1	6			
Cutting plants, 2 men, at 8*d.*	0	1	4			
Crooking plants, 1 man at 8*d.*	0	0	8			
Carting plants, 1 man at 8*d.*, 1 boy at 6*d.*	0	1	2			
Planting 1 acre or 2,722 cane holes 4×4, 3 women, 3 days, at 8*d.* the task of 300 holes	0	6	0			
First weeding, 3 women, 3 days, at 8*d.* the task	0	6	0			
Second weeding, 3 women, 3 days, at 8*d.* the task	0	6	0			
Third weeding and trashing, 3 women, 3 days, at 8*d.*	0	6	0			
20 acres of plants, at per acre	3	8	8			
				68	13	4
First weeding of 1 acre of first rattoons, 3 women, 3 days, at 8*d.* for the task of 300 holes	0	6	0			
Second weeding and levelling the banks, 3 women, 3 days, at 8*d.* for the task of 300 holes	0	6	0			
20 acres of first rattoons, at	0	12	0			
				12	0	0
First weeding and moulding 1 acre of second rattoons, 3 women, 3 days, at 8*d.* task 300	0	6	0			
Second weeding, 5 women at 8*d.* task 544 holes	0	3	4			
20 acres of second rattoons, at per acre	0	9	4			
				9	6	8

Cutting off the Crop.

Cutting canes for 1 hogshead potted sugar, taking an average of the yield from the land and from the canes, 6 men at 9*d.*, 3 women binders at 8*d.*	0	6	6			
1 water-carrier at 6*d.*, 2 crook boys at 8*d.*	0	1	10			
2 cartmen at 9*d.*, 2 boys at 6*d.*	0	2	6			
Cutting and carting canes for 70 hogsheads potted sugar, at	0	10	10			
				37	18	4

TOBAGO.

Grinding the Canes.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Grinding canes for 1 hogshead potted sugar, 1 day, 2 drivers at 1*s.*, 1 feeder at 9*d.*	0	2	9			
2 men handing canes, at 9*d.* each	0	1	6			
1 woman removing megass and binding it, 8*d.*	0	0	8			
2 women wet megass carriers, at 8*d.*	0	1	4			
Grinding canes for 70 hogsheads potted sugar, at	0	6	3			
				21	17	6

Manufacturing the Sugar.

1 head boilerman at 1*s.*, 1 hogshead per diem	0	1	0			
1 second boilerman at 9*d.*, 1 clarifier at 9*d.*	0	1	6			
2 firemen at 9*d.*, 2 women dry megass carriers at 8*d.*, and 1 water carrier at 6*d.*	0	3	4			
Boiling and potting 70 hogsheads of sugar, at	0	5	10			
				20	8	4

Carting Produce and Stores.

Carting 60 shipping hogsheads to the bay, two turns per diem, 2 cartmen, 30 days, at 8*d.* each	2	0	0			
Carting 20 puncheons rum, 2 cartmen, 5 days, at 8*d.* each	0	6	8			
Carting out stores, lumber, &c., out of crop, say 10 days, 2 cartmen at 8*d.* each	0	13	4			
				3	0	0
1 overseer at 40*l.* per annum	40	0	0			
His board, lodging, and washing	40	0	0			
1 superintendent, 365 days, at 1*s.* per diem	18	5	0			
1 groom, 365 days, at 1*s.* per diem	18	5	0			
2 jobbers, 261 days, at 8*d.* each	17	8	0			
1 head stock-keeper, 365 days, at 9*d.*	13	13	9			
1 pasture boy, 365 days, at 6*d.*	9	2	6			
2 pasture boys, 365 days, at 4*d.*	12	3	4			
1 cooper making 60 hogsheads from packs, 45 days, at 1*s.*	2	5	0			
,, making 20 puncheons from shooks, 20 days, at 1*s.*	1	0	0			
,, 20 days' extra work at vats heading, &c.	1	0	0			
4 grass-cutters for 313 days, at 6*d.* (employed) during crop time to collect and chop cane tops	31	6	0			
2 crook boys for 313 days, at 8*d.* each	20	17	4			
1 still-house woman, 100 days, at 8*d.*	3	6	8			
1 still-man, 100 days, at 8*d.*	3	6	8			
Carpenters', masons', millwrights', blacksmiths', and plumbers' labour, averaged at per annum	30	0	0			
				261	19	3
Stores and supplies, including hogshead packs, puncheons, shocks, wood hoops, iron hoops, nails, rivets, locks, w. p. boards, plank, scantling shingles, hard wood, iron wedges, building lime, temper lime, train oil, paint, oil, oats, oil-cake, mill-grease, salt, turpentine, cart and mule harness, rope bolts and rings, tallow candles, &c. &c. &c., average				200	0	0
Annual value or rent for which the estate might be let in gross, say				60	0	0
Land-tax on 60 acres of cultivated land, at 4*s.* per acre				12	0	0
Land-tax on 100 acres of land in pasture, &c., at 6*d.* per acre				2	10	0
Total cost of 60 hogsheads sugar and 20 puncheons of rum				709	13	5
Deduct nett proceeds of rum, as per account of sales				162	1	4
Total cost of producing 60 hogsheads of sugar				547	12	1

Cost of producing each hogshead sugar, 9*l.* 2*s.* 6¼*d.*

Nett proceeds, as per account of sales, of 60 hogsheads sugar, or 858 cwts. at 40*s.*	858	0	0
Nett proceeds of rum, 20 puncheons, of strength 21°	162	1	4
	1,020	1	4
Cost of production	709	13	5
Profit when sugar is worth 14*l.* 18*s.* per hogshead, and rum worth 8*l.* 2*s.* 3¼*d.* per puncheon	310	7	11

Cost of producing one ton of sugar, 12*l.* 15*s.* 3½*d.*

NUMBER of Hands required to produce 858 cwts. of Sugar and 2,288 Gallons of Proof Rum.

Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
25	20	5	2	52

or 16 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lbs. nett weights sugar and 44 gallons proof rum per head, or about one hogshead and one barrel for every man, woman, boy, and girl employed.

Notes.

The cost of the hogshead of sugar must always be affected by the price for which the rum is sold. If the men and women labourers can be got to work regularly, and to do more than the common tasks which in the preceding statement are set down as a day's work, of course fewer than 50 hands will suffice to produce the same results. But as the people do not work regularly, and although some will do more, many will do less than their task, and there are always some absent from their work, it is found practically that the number of names on the pay list is always greater than the number by whom the work might be performed by single task.

In the preceding estimate no allowance is made for the salary of a manager, who is not a necessary. He is in the place of the proprietor, who is supposed to live or starve upon the profits.

Nor is anything put down for lost time. This is about balanced by charging the brushing at the task of 1,200 square feet only, and for manuring the whole of the land opened with a basketful for each hole, whereas in practice not more than half the land to be cleared is in heavy bush, and not more than one basketful for every two holes is allowed in manuring—more or less of the land on every estate being planted without any manure at all.

Nor is any allowance made for casualties of any kind, because they are not fairly the subjects of such a calculation. They must be spread over a number of years, and are the risks of speculation and insurance.

Differences of season and soil are covered by the allowance of one hogshead for every acre of land in cultivation, that being the general average of production in this island, one year with another.

On an estate producing under 100 hogsheads of marketable sugar, difference of motive-power is of little consequence. Each kind has its advantages and disadvantages, which are pretty fairly balanced.

But the staff and incidental expenses of an estate which produces less than 100 hogsheads of sugar are nearly sufficient for the production of twice that quantity. Large estates are therefore conducted more economically, and sugar can be produced upon them at a smaller cost per hogshead than upon small estates.

In this island the average truss of a hogshead is 40 inches. In Trinidad the average truss is only 38 inches. Supposing that the same amount of labour is required there as here to produce a ton of sugar, the apparent quantity in casks will be considerably greater there than here.

LETTER from the Colonial Secretary to Lieutenant Governor SHORTLAND.

SIR, Tobago, Secretary's Office, June 5, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the Blue Book for 1855, together with an abstract of the Blue Book Returns for the years 1853, 1854, and 1855, prepared in accordance with the instructions of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief's Circular of the 7th March 1854; and also some memoranda submitted by the Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. Child.

The information has been collected and collated with great care; nevertheless, I regret to say it has been impossible to arrive at some detailed information that is required to complete its columns. The book for next year will be more perfect, as the new Acts now being carried into effect (particularly the Act for the valuation of all lands and tenements) will afford several answers to statistical questions which parties now refuse to give.

As there is no law to compel the registration of births or deaths, it is difficult to ascertain to what extent the population is increasing, but that it is increasing in a large ratio is the general opinion. The return of the population by the last census (1851) gave 14,378 souls; that return was, however, considered inaccurate, and short of the number, and at this date the population is estimated to exceed 15,250 in number.

In the early part of the year several labourers, particularly carpenters, wheelwrights, and coopers, not being enabled to find employment in this island, resorted to other colonies; but the pressure of the times being equally felt elsewhere, the most of them have returned, so that their absence has only in a trifling degree affected the number of the population.

TOBAGO.

Mr. Robert G. Rice, under whose superintendence the Boys' School in Scarborough is placed, has submitted a report of his experience in the system of education he has adopted during the year 1855, and he hopes something of a more instructive character may be framed for the future. If his aim were carried out by the Legislature, I humbly conceive it would be of paramount importance to the colony; for, as it is, the youths of respectable parents are very much neglected for want of the advantages of a better and more enlarged scholastic education.

The sugar crop of 1855 is expected to realize 3,800 hogsheads of sugar, being an advance of 1,203 hogsheads over the produce of 1854.

The island exports nothing but sugar and rum, a few cocoanuts, and fuel.

With Mr. Rice's School Report I have also appended to this letter, for want of sufficient room in page 200, a return of the estates in sugar cultivation, and of those properties which are confined to the growth of provisions, or used for pasturage.

I have, &c.

His Excellency
The Lieutenant Governor.

(Signed) KAYE DOWLAND,
Colonial Secretary.

MEMORANDA relative to certain Paragraphs in the Governor-in-Chief's Despatch, Barbados, April 22d, 1856, in so far as regards the Leeward District chiefly.

Paragraph 2.
Crown lands.

I believe that very little Crown land, if any, remains unsold.

The area of Tobago is stated to be 104 square miles, or 66,560 acres. The earliest survey of the island, "in divisions," makes it only 61,408 acres. By the official Report of the Land Sale Commissioners (a printed copy of which is in the Secretary's office), it appears that between the years 1765 and 1771 there were sold by the Crown *57,408* acres, which realized in sterling money *154,408l. 19s.*, being an average of *2l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* per acre. The lowest average was in 1765 (1*l.* 0*s.* 1¾*d.*), and the highest in 1770 (*5l.* 17*s.* 7*d.*)

For many years after 1771 the whole of what is now the Leeward District (nearly one-half of the island), as also the entire windward sea-board, and even the dependency of Little Tobago, were under indigo, cotton, and sugar culture. Traces of long disused coast highways are still quite visible; and so late as 1818 the Road Act provided for the maintenance of a highway between Studley Park Bay across the island to Castara. In former days, some of the most extensive estates were situated on this line of road; and it was here that, in 1781, Lieutenant Governor Ferguson submitted to the French.

That conquest was the first check to the prosperity of Tobago. The Bank of Scotland refused to make farther advances to the settlers, who were chiefly Scotchmen. Ultimately, such estates as kept up their cultivation gradually fell into the hands of the home merchants; and the island is now what we find it.

Many years ago I proposed that a commission should be constituted to take charge of abandoned estates, with a view to colonise the beautiful and fertile valleys which are now lying waste.

Land is so easily obtainable that in this district there is no such thing as squatting.

Paragraph 3.
Employment and habits of negroes.

The fact that a great majority of the negro population—whether plantation labourers or otherwise—have, since emancipation, left the plantation negro houses, and acquired comfortable residences of their own elsewhere, may be taken as *primâ facie* evidence that they are industrious and saving. No man contented with the mere necessities of life will work, and save up money to buy a piece of land and erect a house, and pay the taxes to which he thereby subjects himself. I have been upwards of twenty years in Tobago, and I deny that its peasantry are abandoned to slothful habits. I assert, on the contrary, that a more industrious class does not exist in this world,—at least when working for themselves. I see no reason, either, for employers on estates to find fault. In the face of our taxation, "8*d.*" a day is not a very remunerative wage to labourers whose employers in Great Britain are comparatively untaxed for the produce which they extract from Tobago. Better wages would procure an increase of work. A minimum of wages naturally purchases a minimum in return, and prompts the peasantry to labour for themselves rather than for their employers.

See Supply Act for 1855.

(1.)

Paragraph 4.
Sugar estates: Absentee proprietors - 16 Resident proprietors - 5

In this district there are twenty-one sugar estates which depend almost entirely on hired labour; on every estate, however, there is also métayer cultivation, more or less.

Of these estates, six (6) belonging to absentee proprietors are for sale; one (1), also belonging to an absentee, has been very recently rented to a resident tenant; and another (1) shirran was sold by an absentee proprietor in 1854 to a resident owner for 600*l.* This estate, seventy years ago, borrowed money on life annuities in the London market to the amount of 10,000*l.* a year.

Tobago Register of Conveyances.

(2.)

We have seventeen sugar estates which are almost wholly cultivated under the métayer system; and such, till lately, were dependent on hired labour.

Of these, thirteen (13) are cultivated by the proprietors, and four (4) by renters.

Métayer cultivation is being rapidly extended where there is land and a plant, but a want of capital to hire labour. I think it will redeem the colony if proper laws are framed for its regulation.

Paragraph 5.
Cost of sugar.

From what I can learn, sugar, in ordinary cases, can be delivered at the port of embarkation for 15*s.* per cwt. Métayer cultivators, selling in the colony, are satisfied with this sum, although, of course, a rise in the home market will influence prices.

Paragraph 6.
Ratio of labourers to produce.

Lord Harris states that in Trinidad a population of 100 persons, young and old, is capable of producing 200 hogsheads of sugar. It may be so in Trinidad, where there is a large proportion of deep, rich alluvial soil, which ratoons for many years. Here it is not so. Many years ago I used to be told by the old slave planters that the estimated return was a hogshead for each plantation slave.

There can be no doubt, however, that we have a labouring population more than ample for our sugar exports. When these labourers finally come to work for themselves, or for others at remunerative wages, there will be a large increase in our staple exports.

Paragraphs 7 & 8.
Supply of labourers.

We have a sufficient supply of resident agricultural labourers, so far as regards plantations which are cultivated on the hiring system. I have repeatedly heard of managers refusing applications for service.

Paragraph 12.
Falling off of import duties.

In the latter end of 1854 and early part of the year 1855, many estates cultivated by hired labour were ordered by absentee proprietors to be abandoned on 1st August 1855. These directions were countermanded at the eleventh hour; but, nevertheless, they must have affected import orders from abroad.

Paragraph 14.
Resident and non-resident proprietors.

This I have noticed in answering paragraph 4.

Paragraph 15.
Small freeholds.

These are very numerous, from half an acre to one, two, or three acres. I cannot enumerate them; but they will shortly be reported by the land tax valuators.

(Signed) W. A. CHILD,
Stipendiary Magistrate,
Leeward District.

16th June 1856.

TOBAGO.

Abstract Returns from Blue Book for 1853, 1854, and 1855.

Revenue.

Year.	Customs Duties.			Assessed and other Taxes.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Import.	Export.	Tonnage.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1853	4,567	Nil	468	5,814	10,850	—	—
1854	3,729		271	4,014	8,014	—	2,836
1855	3,509		312	4,760	8,581	567	—

Expenditure, Colonial.

Year.	Civil Government.	Judicial.	Ecclesiastical.	Education.	Other Expenditure.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1853	3,079	867	1,158	305	3,711	10,773	—	—
1854	2,529	607	722	337	1,803	8,014	—	2,759
1855	2,042	650	922	84	4,883	8,581	567	—

These Returns show only the actual sums paid from the public Treasury in each year.

Expenditure, Local and Parochial.

Nil.

Expenditure, Great Britain.

Year.	Civil.	Military.	Total.	Remarks.
	£	£	£	
1853	2,990	6,573	9,563	The troops were withdrawn from this island on the 16th January 1854.
1854	2,990	—	2,990	
1855	2,340	—	2,340	

Population.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Remarks.
1853	7,347	7,691	15,038	Out of this number there remained of Europeans on 31st December 1855—Males, 95; Females, 44: Total, 139.
1854	7,430	7,775	15,205	
1855	7,430	7,775	15,205	

Land.

Year.	Area in Square Miles.	Average under Cultivation.	Remarks.
1853	97 square miles, or 62,080 acres.	Estimated at 7,883	
1854		„ 7,800	Canes, about 2,580 acres.
1855		2,580 acres in canes	Occupied in provision grounds; cannot be ascertained.

Coins and Currency.

Year.	Specie in Circulation.	Notes in Circulation.	Remarks.
1853	Unknown.	Nil.	There is no bank in Tobago.
1854			
1855			

Churches.

Year.	Church of England.	Other Denominations.	No. of Sittings.	Average Attendance.	Centesimal Proportion to the Population.	Remarks.
1853	7	9	7,350	6,330	42·09	
1854	7	9	7,350	6,335	41·6	7 Wesleyans.
1855	7	9	7,350	6,335	41·6	3 Moravians.

Schools.

Year.	Church of England.	Other Denominations.	Total No. of Scholars.	Centesimal Proportion to the Population.	Remarks.
1853	459	1,263	1,822	12·1	Church of England 7
1854	443	1,485	1,928	12·6	Moravians - - 4
1855	377	1,514	1,891	12·4	Wesleyans - - 7

Imports. *Exports.*

	VALUE IN STERLING.				VALUE IN STERLING.			
Year.	From Great Britain.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To Great Britain.	To British. Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1853	22,488	24,624	5,885	52,997	55,200	971	Nil	56,171
1854	16,751	33,002	2,554	52,307	49,642	112		49,754
1855	10,373	25,195	1,792	37,360	44,794	2,593		47,387

Shipping.

	INWARDS.				OUTWARDS.			
Year.	From Great Britain.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To Great Britain.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1853	3,673	3,180	1,182	8,035	3,274	2,843	1,804	7,921
1854	2,913	2,490	424	5,827	2,913	2,490	424	5,827
1855	3,007	1,775	40	4,822	2,640	2,183	48	4,871

Copy of a REPORT from Mr. Robert G. Rice, Superintendent of the Scarborough Boys' School, to the Colonial Secretary.

Sir, Scarborough, May 29, 1856.

I beg to submit for the consideration of the Government the following Report of the Scarborough Boys' School during the past year.

I am, in the first place, happy to have to inform you that, notwithstanding the difficulties all have here encountered from the pecuniary embarrassments of the Colonial Treasury, and its consequent refusal for nine months of the year to pay the salaries of public officers, the school has gone on systematically and steadily, and its efficiency has been made sufficiently apparent by the progress of the boys who have been in attendance. I may here remark that the school is open to all classes of the community, the principles on which it is conducted not interfering with the conscientious scruples of any sect of Christians. No child is excluded from the advantages the school offers of affording a sound secular education, on account of its religious persuasion; nor is any compulsion exercised to secure the attendance of any boy during the hour daily devoted to religious instruction.

TOBAGO.

My experience during the past year amply corroborates a statement I made in my last Report respecting the great capability of the intellect of the negro for mental development.

Never during my employment in the work of education at home have I found more unwearied application, nor, considering the difficulties to be encountered, greater success in acquiring the rudiments of an education, than the boys here committed to my charge have exhibited.

I must remark on the apathy which pervades the community as to the interests of an efficient system of popular education. But, from the improved financial prospects of the colony, and the perseverance with which His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor continues to urge on the Legislature the necessity of some educational measures, I am not without hopes that education will shortly be placed on a more efficient footing than it has been heretofore.

I am informed the Executive Committee are actually engaged in considering the matter, and though, from the difficulties with which it is beset, much may not be done in the first instance, yet the discussion which must ensue may be the means of enlightening the public mind on this important subject.

In reality, the depth of ignorance in which the majority of the people is sunk calls aloud for the benevolent interference of the statesman philanthropist.

In conclusion, I beg to subjoin the following statement of school statistics during the past year:—

Number of pupils in attendance - - - 86
Daily average attendance - - - 43
Payment of pupils per month, and in advance, 1*s.*
Total amount received from pupils during the year, 31*l.* 10*s.*

The teacher's salary is composed of the following items:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Grant from the Colonial Treasury - -	60	0	0
From other sources - - - -	50	0	0
	110	0	0

In addition to the above, the teacher has during the year realized 18*l.* from a special class in the school, making his income 128*l.*

The boys composing this class belong to the more respectable inhabitants, and receive special instruction from the master.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ROBERT G. RICE.

The Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c.

The NUMBER of PLANTATIONS in each PARISH cultivating SUGAR.

Parish.	Name of Estate.	Size of Estate in Acres.	Quantity of Acres in Cane Cultivation.	Name of Proprietor.	Whether Proprietor resident or not.	Whether under Métayer System or not.
St. John	Charlotte Ville	596	73	Sir H. Stewart	Absent.	
	Spey Side	1,030	5	Colonel J. Gordon	Absent.	
St. Paul	King's Bay	247	50	Mrs. Innis	Absent.	
	Betsey's Hope	872	130	Heirs of Robley	Absent.	
	Roxborough	965	85	P. M. Stewart	Absent.	
	Invera	200	35	Robert Gordon	Resident.	
	Kendal Place	516	40	John and James Leith	Resident.	
	Belle Garden	220	18	Heirs of Hall	Absent.	
St. Mary	Richmond	1,400	55	Heirs of Robley	Absent.	
	Glamorgan	270	40	Ditto	Absent.	
	Pembroke	189	25	James Ewing	Absent, but leased.	
	Goldsborough	580	70	Heirs of Robley	Absent.	
	Unity	198	60	James Ewing	Absent.	
	Lure	500	15	D. Yeates	Resident	Métayer system.
	Greenhill	1,000	40	Heirs of Morrison	Absent.	
St. George	Studley Park	630	50	Mrs. Brooke	Absent.	
	Hope	995	71	Heirs of Francklyn	Absent.	
	Cradley	500	10	James Cunningham	Absent, but leased	Métayer system.
	Concordia	215	15	F. C. Keens	Resident, but leased	Métayer system.
	Belmont	700	65	Geo. Warden	Absent.	
	Bacolet	787	56	Heirs of J. Gordon	Absent.	
	Nutmeg Grove	885	40	Melville and Allom	Resident	Métayer system.
	Mount St. George	180	10	Mrs. Brasnell	Absent, but leased.	
St. Andrew	Calder Hall	102	12	Wm. Pinheiro	Resident	Métayer system.
	Burleigh Castle	670	80	Heirs of Balfour	Absent.	
	Auchenskeoch	569	130	C. D. Kerr	Absent.	
	Riseland	360	60	J. H. Hamilton	Absent.	
	Lowlands	718	18	Mrs. Piggott	Absent.	
	Mont Pelier	360	50	James Cunningham	Absent.	

The Number of Plantations in each Parish cultivating Sugar—*continued.*

Parish.	Name of Estate.	Size of Estate in Acres.	Quantity of Acres in Cane Cultivation.	Name of Proprietor.	Whether Proprietor resident or not.	Whether under Métayer System or not.
St. Patrick	Courland	600	30	Ellice Kinnear & Co.	Absent.	
	Orange Valley	521	60	Sir H. Willock	Absent.	
	Prospect			Ellice Kinnear & Co.	Absent.	
	Grafton	285	20	Heirs of J. Gordon	Absent.	
	Mount Irvine	541	102	Lord Douglas	Absent.	
	Grange, New	249	80	Heirs of Gordon	Absent.	
	Grange, Old	247	60	Ditto	Absent.	
	Bonaccord	500	50	Ellice Kinnear & Co.	Absent.	
	Shirvan	400	72	A. Hunt	Resident.	
	Kilgwyn	215	62	N. S. Chauncey	Absent	Lately purchased by a resident.
St. David	Golden Grove and Friendship	780	80	Heirs of Robley	Absent.	
	Buccoo	416	90	Lord Douglas	Absent.	
	Lower Quarter	284	18	Dr. Richards	Absent, but leased.	
	Mary's Hill	306	20	Wm. K. Martin	Absent	Métayer system.
	Orange Hill	300	80	Heirs of Balfour	Absent.	
	Amity Hope	300		Ditto	Absent.	
	Whim	400	30	J. Hamilton	Absent, but leased	Principallymétayer.
	Providence	270	18	J. Ewing	Absent, but leased	Ditto.
	Francklyn	279	8	G. M'Gregor	Resident	Métayer system.
	Les Coteaux	500	60	Heirs of Morrison	Absent	Principallymétayer.
	Adventure	288	68	Hen. R. Gordon	Resident.	
	Acnoes Vale	475	20	Heirs of J. Kitson	Resident.	
	Castara	580	35	Ad. Ferguson	Absent	Métayer system.
	Runnemede	1,390	40	James Ewing	Absent.	
	Indian Walk	351	62	J. Hamilton	Absent	Lately purchased by a resident.
	Woodlands	430	60	Hon. J. Kirk	Resident.	
	Culloden	384	22	Benj. Alleyne	Resident	Métayer system.
	Golden Lane	200	60	Heirs of Morrison	Absent	Métayer system.

The Number of Estates in each Parish on which Provisions are cultivated, or which may be used as Pasture for the rearing of Stock.

Parish.	Name of Estate.	Size of Estate in Acres.	Quantity in Cultivation, and Kind.	Name of Proprietor.	Whether Proprietor resident in the Island or not.
St. John	Hermitage	290	Provisions	John and Jas. Leith	Resident.
	Observatory	450	Do.	P. M. Stewart	Absent.
	Trois Riviers	315	Do.	Col. J. Gordon	Absent.
	Merchiston	600	Do.	Heirs of Napier	Absent.
	Delaford	400	Do.	Proprietors unknown. In the possession of labourers.	
St. Paul	Argyle	335	Do.	Rob. Gordon	Resident.
St. Mary	Goodwood	500	Do.	J. Robley	Absent.
	Montrose	426	Pasture	Hon. E. Ellice	Absent.
St. David	Craig Hall	199	Provisions	E. D. Sanderson	Resident.
	Dunvegan	155	Do.	Ditto.	Resident.
	Englishman's Bay	600	Do.	Ad. Ferguson	Absent.
St. George	Adelphi	495	Do.	Kaye Dowland	Resident.
	Friendsfield	500	Do.	Heirs of J. Kitson	Resident.
St. Andrew	Lambeau	200	Do.	Heirs of Stewart	Resident.
	Carnbee	100	Do.	Heirs of Gaine and others.	Absent.
	Crompston	300	Pasture	Heirs of Baillie and others.	Absent.

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No. 18.

No. 18.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Hincks to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 29.)

Windward Islands, Barbados, May 2, 1856.

Sir, (Received June 5, 1856.)

Enclosure 2, Blue Book sent separate.

I have the honour to transmit the St. Vincent Blue Book for 1855, together with Lieut.-Governor Eyre's accompanying Despatch and various enclosures, on which it is unnecessary that I should offer any remarks.

No. 50, 18th April 1856, with four enclosures.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) F. HINCKS.

Enclosure 1. in No. 18.

Copy of a Despatch from Lieut.-Governor Eyre to Governor Hincks.

(No. 50.)

Sir, Government House, St. Vincent, April 18, 1856.

Abstract returns from Blue Book (in duplicate).

St. Vincent Produce returns, 1855.

Statistics of Kingstown Police Courts (in duplicate).

Return of Public Debt, 1st Jan. 1855 (in duplicate).

I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency, in duplicate, the Blue Book for St. Vincent for the year ending 31st December 1855, together with the usual abstract returns compiled from it, also in duplicate.

2. The contents of the present volume will disclose the great falling off in the staple productions of the colony, which I anticipated when forwarding the Blue Book for 1854; but I am happy to say the prospects of the colony are now again somewhat improved, that I believe the greatest period of depression has already passed, and that I hope the returns for the current and succeeding years will show a gradual but certain increase upon those now forwarded for 1855.

3. Since my last annual report some advance has been made in the reduction of the public debt, in the establishment of a more legitimate appropriation of the public funds, and towards a better adjustment of the revenue and expenditure.

That more has not been done is ascribable to the unsuitability of the existing form of constitution to the present state of St. Vincent, a subject to which I particularly called attention in my annual report for 1854.

4. Efforts have been made during the past year to introduce, through the local legislature, a modification in the form of government, so as to obviate the inconvenience and evils which could not but be patent to all.

The, perhaps not unnatural, jealousy and suspicion with which all proposed changes are looked upon by the popular branch prevented any measure of reform being carried in 1855, but I am happy to say that during the current year a most necessary and useful Act has been passed creating an Executive Council of ten, to be composed of five members of the Legislative Council and five members of the House of Assembly, in lieu of the existing Privy Council, which consists exclusively of members of the Legislative Council.

This Act only awaits the Royal assent to come into immediate operation, and I anticipate from it many most useful results, and especially a more expeditious, a more vigorous, and a more satisfactory executive administration.

I fully expect too that this measure will before long be followed by another creating an executive committee of three political officers (one from the Upper House and two from the Lower), upon whom will devolve the responsibility of initiating all government measures on the system at present in operation in Jamaica, and thus the administration will be popularized and responsible government established, as far as such is practicable, in the present condition of the West Indies.

5. I proceed to comment briefly upon some of the more important subjects comprehended in the Blue Book.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue of 1855 (17,228*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*) is less than that of 1854 (20,247*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.*) by 3,018*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*

The falling off in the duties on imports has been very great (2,786*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*), owing to the diminished consumption consequent upon the removal of the troops, the abandonment of estates, and the reduced circumstances of the colonists.

The decrease of imports has also correspondingly reduced the receipts from tonnage dues.

On the other hand an increase has taken place in the receipts from duties on rum, from judicial fines, and from some few other and new sources (as a tax on incomes and horses, mules, cattle, &c.), but no loan has been had by sale of treasury notes, as was the case in 1854.

The total expenditure of 1855 (17,312*l.* 3*s.*) is less than that of 1854 (20,853*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*) by 3,541*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*

The decrease of expenditure has arisen chiefly from there having been no cholera or quarantine expenses in 1855, and from the low state of the treasury funds not admitting of the full amount of the usual payments being made to the hospital, to schools, to roads, &c.

At the same time an increased expenditure has been provided for on account of police, magistrates courts, and large arrears of 1854 have been paid off in the shape of outstanding treasury notes and unpaid public accounts.

Public Debt.

As was the case in 1854, so now the statement under the head of public debt does not show the total actual liabilities of the colony at the close of 1855.

A separate return on this subject, accompanying my Blue Book Report for 1854, showed the actual debt of the colony on the 1st January 1855 to be 7,132*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, a corresponding return now transmitted makes the actual debt of the colony on the 1st January 1856, 5,921*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*; thus exhibiting, after taking into account all the liabilities of the year, a positive reduction of 1,210*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.* during the twelve months, which, considering the great diminution of revenue during the same period from that of former years, is as satisfactory a result as could have been expected.

Public Works.

No public works of any kind have been undertaken during the year, excepting the expenditure of 825*l.* on the roads.

Legislation.

Eighteen acts have been passed during the year 1855; of these, two have been Tax Acts, one increasing the import duties under which 256*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* was raised, and one imposing a tax upon incomes, animals, &c., under which 702*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* was raised.

The other most important Acts have been the renewal of an Act regulating the sales of wines and spirits, the passing of an Act for enforcing church discipline, chiefly in accordance with the wishes of the Lord Bishop of Barbados, of an Act for the improvement of criminal justice and for assimilating the colonial law on this subject to that of England, of Acts for amending the police Acts to admit of that force being better organized, and of Acts for the appropriation of the public revenue for the year.

These last-mentioned enactments constitute an important step in the right direction, and I trust that having once adopted the legitimate and constitutional mode of appropriating the public revenue by an annual appropriation Act, the local legislature will always adopt a similar course in future.

Political Franchise

Is the same as last year. In entering the statistics under this heading a mistake has been made and the details given of a general election which took place in January 1856, instead of the last general election prior to the

ST. VINCENT.

31st December 1855, to which period the Blue Book is made up. The error gives an opportunity of contrasting the present state of the colony in reference to such details with that which existed at the previous general election in January 1853. In the latter year there were only 293 registered electors and 130 voters. In January 1856, there were 636 registered electors and 211 voters, thus showing that during the last three years there has been a considerable increase in the interest taken in their powers and privileges by the electors; but even now the very small number of 211 voters, by whom the whole nineteen members of the House of Assembly have been returned, is a vrey insignificant fraction of the whole population, supposed to be upwards of 30,000.

Councils and Assembly

Remain unaltered in their constitution, but the new law recently passed will shortly effect a very great change by abolishing the existing Privy Council, which consists exclusively of members of the Legislative Council, and substituting for it an Executive Council of ten, composed of five members of the Legislative Council, and five members of the House of Assembly.

Civil Establishment.

Very similar to that of the previous year.

Population.

No census since 1851, and that a very inaccurate one; no immigration or emigration of any importance during the year. The colony has been free from epidemics, and only the usual average of mortality has taken place.

Education.

Although from circumstances the colonial revenue has not been in a position to provide the full amount of the usual payments on account of education, the returns show that the private schools have still for the most part been kept up without state support, and that there have been nearly the same number of scholars receiving instruction as during 1854.

During the current year it is hoped that a more adequate support to the various schools may be given from the public funds.

Imports and Exports.

The total amount of imports in 1855 (112,493*l.*) shows a decrease upon 1854 (145,772*l.*) of 33,279*l.*

The decrease has been chiefly in the importation of cattle, horses, mules, butter, guano, timber, &c. &c., and unenumerated articles, but more especially in the latter, where the decrease has been no less than 37,890*l.*

On the other hand, there has been an increased importation of beer, candles, cordage, grain, and meal, fish, hardware, &c., &c.

The total amount of exports in 1855 (101,912*l.*) shows a decrease upon 1854 (176,797*l.*) of the very large amount of 74,885*l.*

This great falling off is due to the diminished production of the staple exports of the colony. In sugar this diminution amounts to 57,253*l.*, in rum and shrub to 8,557*l.*, in molasses to 2,011*l.*, in arrowroot to 3,695*l.* There has also been a diminished re-exportation of articles imported into the colony to the value of 3,371*l.*

It is a remarkable fact connected with the West India trade, that whilst the Blue Book returns show that nearly the whole of the exports from St. Vincent are to Great Britain, either directly or indirectly through some of the other West Indian islands, yet the larger part of the imports into the colony, indeed fully three fifths, are from North America, the United States or other foreign states, and only about two fifths from Great Britain.

Produce grown in the Colony.

A comparison of the abstract return given at page 201 of the Blue Book, and compiled from the sworn returns of the managers and overseers of estates of the produce manufactured in the colony in 1855, with the corresponding

return given in the Blue Book for 1854, exhibits a decrease in the production of sugar to the amount of 4,070,284 lbs. weight, of rum to the amount of 37,425 gallons, of molasses to the amount of 23,281 gallons, of cotton to the amount of 13,655 lbs. weight, but an increase in the manufacture of arrowroot to the amount of 64,781 lbs. weight.

This last is clearly an error, as the value of the arrowroot exported in 1855 has already been shown to have been less by 3,695*l.* than the value of the arrowroot exported in 1854. The mistake I have no doubt exists in the returns for 1854, and has probably arisen from an arithmetical error in making out in pounds weight the abstract of the produce returns for 1854, and which ought to have shown a greater number of pounds of arrowroot than the returns for 1855.

I enclose a return of the details from which the abstract of the produce returns is made up.

State of Crime.

I have had appended to the Blue Book two comparative returns containing an abstract of all commitments for trial before the Court of Grand Sessions, with a statement of the offences, and the result of the trials for the years 1854 and 1855, and an abstract for the same two years of all prisoners sent to the Kingstown Gaol under sentences from magistrates, with a statement of the offences for which they were imprisoned.

The general result of this comparison is favourable, as there is decidedly a decrease in the more serious offences; and although the commitments for trial before the supreme court have been very nearly the same as last year, the actual convictions have been one third less.

From the magistrates' courts there have been rather more commitments to gaol than during 1854, but chiefly for offences of a minor character, as drunkenness, breach of contract, &c. &c.

In connexion with the statistics of crime I transmit herewith an elaborate and interesting return, compiled by the police magistrate Crosby, of the result of his administration as police magistrate of Kingstown, from the 18th May 1844 to the 31st December 1855, from which it appears that a very great decrease has taken place in the number of cases brought before his court between the first and last years of his administration.

6. Having reported fully last year upon the general state of the colony and the working of its existing institutions I have little further to add in my present report.

The change which will take place under the operation of the new executive council act will probably be effected by the end of June, and thus an opportunity be afforded of testing its utility during the latter half of the current year.

I am not aware whether the other portion of this system which creates a paid executive committee answers all the expectations which were formed of it when first introduced at Jamaica, but I understand from your Excellency that it is working well at Tobago.

With such encouragement I purpose trying to get it introduced at St. Vincent as soon as the new executive council shall be fairly at work.

7. I omitted to notice in its proper order that no report upon the state of Government House in this colony has been appended to the present volume, in consequence of my having recently forwarded such full reports upon the subject in my despatches No. 117. of the 18th September 1855, and No. 26. of the 17th March 1856.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, Barbados.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

ST. VINCENT.

ABSTRACT RETURNS from "BLUE BOOKS," 1853, 1854, 1855.

Revenue.

Year.	Customs Duties.			Assessed and other Taxes.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Import.	Export.	Tonnage.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1853 -	7,779	—	1,354	8,177	17,310	2,920	—
1854 -	10,719	—	1,381	5,076	17,176	—	134
1855 -	8,189	—	1,171	5,097	14,457	—	2,719

Expenditure, Colonial.

Year.	Civil Government.	Judicial.	Ecclesiastical.	Education.	Police.	Prisons.	Other Expenditure.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1853 -	2,221	1,832	2,810	962	1,475	773	5,588	15,661	709	—
1854 -	2,357	2,966	2,444	903	1,934	980	6,196	17,780	2,119	—
1855 -	2,383	3,481	2,472	152	1,676	933	3,441	14,538	—	3,242

Expenditure, Local and Parochial.

No Parochial Taxes raised in this island. The expenses for "Poor" and "Roads" are included in "Expenditure, Colonial."

Expenditure, Great Britain.

Year.	Civil.	Military.	Total.	Remarks.
	£	£	£	
1853 -	3,070	8,803	11,873	In January 1854 the troops were withdrawn from this colony. The sum of 284*l.* 7*s.* 4½*d.* was paid to military pensioners.
1854 -	3,070	—	3,070	
1855 -	2,770	—	2,770	

Population (Estimated).

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Remarks.
1853 -	13,957	16,171	30,128	No census taken since the 30th June 1851.
1854 -				
1855 -				

Land.

No means of ascertaining.

Coins and Currency.

The notes of the Colonial Bank are in circulation. No means of ascertaining the amount.

Churches.

Year.	Church of England.	Other Denominations.	Number of Sittings Church of England.	Number of Sittings other Denominations.	Average Attendance Church of England.	Average Attendance other Denominations.	Centesimal Proportion to the Population.
1853	15	—	4,542	—	2,955	—	The average returns of attendance at the several churches and chapels in this island cannot be relied upon; as a consequence any centesimal proportion would be fictitious.
1854	19	16	4,847	—	2,860	—	
1855	18	16	4,582	9,760	2,705	—	

Schools.

Year.	Church of England.	Other Denominations.	Number of Scholars.	Centesimal Proportion to the Population.	Remarks.
1853	1,229	748	1,977	6·59	
1854	1,338	362	1,700	5·64	
1855	658	895	1,553	5·17	

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Value in Sterling.

Year.	Imports.				Exports.			
	From Great Britain.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To Great Britain.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1853	71,084	44,296	43,463	158,843	176,617	21,022	1,181	198,820
1854	63,313	47,106	35,353	145,772	158,750	17,608	439	176,797
1855	43,536	50,088	18,869	112,493	86,947	14,376	589	101,912

Shipping.

Year.	Inwards, Tonnage.				Outwards, Tonnage.			
	From Great Britain.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To Great Britain.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
1853	7,069	14,175	5,506	26,750	9,460	10,708	6,336	26,504
1854	6,620	10,853	4,013	21,486	8,930	9,218	4,770	22,918
1855	5,213	7,970	1,536	14,719	6,219	8,166	2,686	17,071

Return of Crimes and Offences.

Year.	Felons.	Misdemeanors.	Other Offences.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.	Centesimal Proportion.	Debtors.
1853	14	69	31	114	—	84	·38	11
1854	32	57	46	135	21	—	·45	51
1855	34	105	30	231	96	—	·77	62

1855.—Colony of St. Vincent.

No. 1.

Return, in a Tabular Form, for the last Year in which they can be made up, of the Gross Revenue under their different Heads, exhibiting the Cost of Collection and every Deduction made in their Progress to the Public Treasury.

Gross Revenue.

Customs.	Tonnage Dues.	Taxes and Excise.	Fines and Forfeitures.	Fees of Office.	Lighthouse Dues.	Land and Casual and Territorial.	Canals and Public Works.	Immigrant Tax.	Interest.	Miscellaneous Receipts.	Gross Amount of Revenue.	Cost of Collection.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
8,189 7 11	1,171 10 0	4,363 10 2	648 3 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	86 0 9	14,558 11 11	—

No. 2.

Return, in a Tabular Form, for the last Year in which they can be made up, of the Disbursements under their different Heads, showing the Authority under which such Disbursements were made.

Expenditure.

Civil Establishment.	Judicial Establishment.	Ecclesiastical Establishment.	Education.	Pensions.	Police.	Gaols.	Roads.	Expenses of the Legislature.	Hospital.	Revenue Department and Drawbacks.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Authority.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
*410 19 8½	3,481 3 9	2,472 10 3	152 16 3	52 15 7	1,676 19 5½	933 11 9	825 0 0	*526 5 10	100 0 0	*1,446 11 3	†2,463 9 2½	14,542 3 0½	The whole paid under the Appropriation Acts for 1855, besides which there are separate Acts for many of the payments.

* On reference to the "Blue Book," page 36, the above sums are all included, and are under the head "Civil, Legislative, and Revenue," and "Drawbacks," amounting to 2,383*l.* 16*s.* 9½*d.* By this return each department is separated.

† The sum under this head "Miscellaneous" was paid as follows :—

	£ s. d.
Treasury Notes	818 15 5
Tax Act	35 0 0
Public accounts	1,414 14 3
Miscellaneous	32 17 4
Repairs of public buildings	0 17 8
Printing, stationery, &c.	161 4 6½
	2,463 9 2½

RETURN showing AMOUNT paid to MILITARY PENSIONERS since the DUTY devolved on the COLONIAL TREASURER, to the 31st December 1855.

NAMES.	Period of Payment.	Remarks.	Rate of Pension per Diem.	Amount.
BLACK OUT-PENSIONERS OF CHELSEA HOSPITAL.				
			s. d.	*£ s. d.*
Thomas Abeall -	From 1st March to 9th July 1854	Dead - -	0 10	5 9 2
John Baptiste - -	Do. to 11th Sept. 1855	Dead - -	0 5	12 3 4
Richard Chacha -	Do. to 31st Dec. 1855	- - -	0 10	26 13 4
Thomas Codd - -	Do. do.	- - -	0 5	13 6 8
Coleman - -	Do. to 18th Apr. 1854	Dead - -	—	1 0 5
Doe - - - - -	Do. to 31st Dec. 1855	- - -	0 8	21 6 8
*Prince Edward -	Do. do.	- - -	0 11	31 8 0
William Filgate -	Do. to 30th June 1855	Pension expired	0 2½	5 0 5½
Pierre François -	Do. to 31st Dec. 1855	- - -	0 5	13 6 8
Thomas Henry - -	Do. to 19th Sept. 1854	Dead - -	—	4 4 7
John Hill - - -	Do. to 31st Dec. 1855	- - -	0 7	18 13 4
Robert Hughes -	Do. do.	- - -	0 3½	8 6 8
Thomas Kennedy -	Do. do.	- - -	0 5	13 6 8
Richard M'Cree -	Do. to 31st Mar. 1855	Pension expired	0 1½	2 9 6
John Milling - -	Do. to 15th Feb. 1855	Dead - -	0 3½	5 2 8
Moses - -	From 1st Feb. to 16th Dec. 1854	Dead - -	0 5	6 12 11
Neville - -	From 1st March to 31st Dec. 1855	- - -	0 5	13 6 8
John Sequah - -	Do. do.	- - -	0 7½	20 0 0
				221 17 8½
WHITE OUT-PENSIONERS OF CHELSEA HOSPITAL.				
Serjeant James Corner	From 1st Apr. 1854 to 31st Dec. 1855	- - -	1 8	53 6 8
Serjeant William Bean	Do. to 30th Sept. 1854	Left for Barbados	1 0	9 3 0
				62 9 8
			£	284 7 4½

* Prince Edward, besides his pension from 1st March 1854 to 31st December 1855, received by direction of the Commissariat at Barbados 2*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*, being balance of an old amount due to him. This is included in the sum set opposite his name.

Treasury, St. Vincent, 1st January 1856. (Signed) J. M. GRANT, Treasurer.

RETURN of Produce manufactured in the several Parishes and Grenadines during the Year 1855.

CHARLOTTE PARISH.

—	Sugar.			Puncheons of Rum.	Puncheons of Molasses.	Pounds of Sugar.	Gallons of Rum.	Gallons of Molasses.	Pounds of Arrowroot.	Acres of Land.	Number of Labourers.
	Hogsheads.	Tierces.	Barrels.								
Adelphi, Upper	56	—	—	55½	28	91,200	5,067	3,024	—	—	—
Adelphi, New	64	—	—	11½	—	102,400	1,081	—	—	—	100
Bellevue	100	—	—	100	—	160,000	9,565	—	—	230	100
Colonarie Vale	104	—	—	86	—	168,538	8,265	—	—	—	—
Grand Sable	394	3	18	1 13 Casks 10	10	723,555	15,360	850	—	310	278
Henry's Vale	41	—	—	22	—	68,554	2,200	1,400	—	—	18
Jambin Vale	52	3	3	16	—	86,400	1,440	—	—	—	30
Langley Park	152	—	—	54	—	255,360	5,088	—	—	600	93
Lot Fourteen	—	—	—	15	—	—	1,350	—	—	922	200
Mount Bentinck	250	—	—	115	—	468,000	10,810	—	—	663	77
Mount Greenan	65	—	2	63	—	109,600	6,082	—	—	—	90
Mount William	148	—	—	80	—	236,800	7,600	—	—	300	100
Orange Hill	110	—	—	50	—	198,000	4,500	—	—	500	85
Park Hill	112	—	—	56	—	181,888	5,376	—	—	440	120
Prospect, New	50	—	—	14	10	75,000	1,344	1,001	—	300	80
Peruvian Vale	43	1	—	18	—	72,800	2,200	1,470	—	90	18
Sans Souci	193	—	—	60	48	324,240	5,760	4,320	—	190	130
Spring	88	—	—	21 Hhds. 9	—	133,100	2,016	—	—	400	85
Tourama	214	—	—	123	—	465,136	12,800	—	—	272	214
Union	237	—	—	23	169	516,780	2,409	19,360	—	—	65
Waterloo	286	—	—	110	—	521,664	9,900	—	—	310	183
Hopewell	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18,090	—	—
Mesopotamia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32,980	96	28
Freeland Cottage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,275	—	—
Owia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	53,405	300	—
Nutmeg Grove	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31,248	30	26
Glenside	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23,813	—	—
TOTAL	2,759	7	23	1,236 Hhds. 19	265	4,959,005	120,213	31,425	161,811	5,953	2,120

Return of Produce manufactured in the several Parishes and Grenadines during the Year 1855—*continued.*

ST. GEORGE'S PARISH.

	Sugar.			Puncheons of Rum.	Puncheons of Molasses.	Pounds of Sugar.	Gallons of Rum.	Gallons of Molasses.	Pounds of Arrowroot.	Pounds of Cocoa.	Acres of Land.	Number of Labourers.
	Hogsheads.	Tierces.	Barrels.									
Argyle	102	—	—	38	1	183,600	3,822	—	—	—	—	—
Bellair	79	—	18½	24½	6	136,420	2,128	490	—	—	281	85
Belvedere	80	—	—	39	—	147,341	4,636	—	—	—	—	—
Bughton	32	11	47	—	33	72,000	—	3,300	7,800	—	—	—
Calder Calder Ridge	219	—	—	69½	—	394,200	6,811	—	—	—	—	—
Cane Hall	83	1	2	25	—	140,269	2,415	—	—	—	393	76
Carapan	105	—	—	62	—	176,324	6,394	—	—	—	240	26
Coriliamaun	10	—	—	—	—	16,000	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diamond, Lower	68	22	22	35	—	159,158	3,697	—	—	—	—	—
Escape	64	22	9	22½	—	126,400	2,195	—	—	—	—	—
Evesham Vale	79	—	2	—	37	126,840	—	3,715	—	—	—	—
Fainhall	73	—	—	12	14	147,140	1,431	1,220	—	—	420	68
Fountain	96	—	—	18	26	171,947	1,800	2,600	—	—	242	90
Kingstown Park	62	—	4	9½	11	98,652	817	909	—	—	139	60
Liberty Lodge	51	37	39	18	11	117,600	1,800	1,100	—	—	210	40
Maniaqua	82	—	—	—	49	142,400	—	4,900	—	—	—	—
Ratho Mill	37	2	—	17	2	60,265	1,666	200	—	—	148	10
Rivulet	59	—	—	35	—	105,644	3,360	—	—	—	400	60
Redemption	60	1	1	6	13	95,618	564	1,051	—	—	180	36
Revolution Hall	29	9	4	14½	—	56,800	1,420	—	—	—	320	67
Sion Hill	17	—	69	9	—	39,300	826	220	—	—	330	16
Villa	62	5	2	15½	12½	105,600	1,663	1,183	—	—	180	15
Dauphine Cottage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21,280	—	—	—
Carnth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27,965	—	—	—
Elfrida's Cottage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6,930	—	—	—
Mt. Agontie	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13,320	—	—	—
Joseph's Land	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19,000	—	—	—
Ribishi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21,540	—	—	—
Rose Cottage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6,840	—	—	—
Whim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20,090	—	—	—
Belmont	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10,560	—	—	—
Kilburnie Lodge	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,000	400	109	8
Southwood	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,943	—	140	15
TOTAL	1,556	110	219½	470½	215½	2,819,518	47,445	20,888	162,268	400	3,737	672

Return of Produce manufactured in the several Parishes and Grenadines during the Year 1855—*continued.*

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH.

——	Sugar.			Puncheons of Rum.	Puncheons of Molasses.	Pounds of Sugar.	Gallons of Rum.	Gallons of Molasses.	Pounds of Arrowroot.	Pounds of Cocoa.	Acres of Land.	Number of Labourers.
	Hogsheads.	Tierces.	Barrels.									
Clare Valley - -	10	—	8	21	—	16,500	2,391	—	—	—	435	—
Camden Park - -	114	—	1	25	32	202,524	2,715	3,103	—	—	330	34
Montrose - -	82	—	—	22½	—	139,400	2,250	—	—	—	400	80
Queensberry - -	112	—	2	11	50	179,700	1,473	6,000	—	—	812	103
Cane Grove - -	203	—	—	25	120	304,500	2,400	12,000	—	—	553	110
Hope - -	99	—	—	15	32	130,680	1,387	2,127	—	—	—	—
Lance Joyeux - -	83	—	—	4	35	132,800	400	3,500	—	—	—	—
Pembroke - -	139	18	—	—	119	210,008	—	12,797	—	—	560	69
Verment - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,870	—	—	—
Bow Wood - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7,500	—	—	—
TOTAL -	142	18	11	123½	388	1,316,112	13,016	39,527	11,370	—	3,292	481

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH.

Cumberland - -	73	—	—	20	—	130,181	1,860	—	—	—	325	73
Keatin's - -	16	—	9	6½	—	26,450	650	—	—	—	—	—
Lance Mahaut - -	—	—	5	—	—	1,000	—	—	—	—	155	6
Mount Hope - -	—	—	50	1½	—	10,000	185	—	—	—	170	5
Mount Wynne - -	37	—	23	44	—	90,539	4,218	—	12,000	—	200	—
Peter's Hope - -	95	—	—	62½	—	156,750	5,983	—	—	—	569	85
Reversion - -	15	—	—	5	—	24,000	500	—	15,120	—	—	35
Rutland Vale - -	164	25	51	81¾	22	304,161	8,041	2,050	—	—	558	125
Wallilabo - -	66	—	—	23	2¼	107,332	2,389	288½	—	—	80	55
Palmist Park - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,090	—	160	20
Small Growers - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	113,329	100	464	21
TOTAL - -	466	25	138	244¼	24¼	850,413	23,826	2,338½	152,539	100	2,681	425

Return of Produce manufactured in the several Parishes and Grenadines during the Year 1855—*continued.*

ST. DAVID'S.

——	Sugar.			Puncheons of Rum.	Puncheons of Molasses.	Pounds of Sugar.	Gallons of Rum.	Gallons of Molasses.	Pounds of Arrowroot.	Acres of Land.	Number of Labourers.
	Hogsheads.	Tierces.	Barrels.								
Belmont	44	—	—	9	—	78,848	810	—	—	174	60
Golden Grove	53	—	—	6	23	89,040	690	2,300	—	—	—
Petit Birdell }	38	—	—	4	—	55,500	400	—	—	—	—
Sharpe's }											
Richmond	78	1	—	14½	10	150,000	1,181	738	—	830	160
Richmond Vale	114	—	—	10	46	182,400	822	4,542	—	388	90
Rose Bank	30	—	—	—	12	48,000	—	1,405	—	250	40
Palmyra	9	49	—	11	—	60,410	990	—	—	244	50
Rose Hall	41	—	—	6½	—	73,472	603	—	—	673	70
Troumaca	45	—	—	4	6	80,640	360	540	—	100	50
Wallibo	32	—	74	13	—	69,392	1,300	1,320	—	720	70
Small Growers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,680	9	—
TOTAL	484	50	74	78	97	887,760	7,156	10,845	4,680	3,388	590

GRENADINES.

——	Sugar.			Rum.	Puncheons of Molasses.	Pounds of Sugar.	Gallons of Rum.	Gallons of Molasses.	Pounds of Arrowroot.	Pounds of Cotton.	Acres of Land.	Number of Labourers.
	Hogsheads.	Tierces.	Barrels.									
				Pun. Hgds.								
Industry (Bequies)	32	—	2	17 3	—	54,800	1,766	—	—	—	500	36
Paget Farm	—	—	172	4 0	1½	39,344	392	150	720	2,386	400	26
Spring	60	—	4	31 0	—	104,800	3,100	—	—	—	619	49
Union	—	26	—	1 19	—	28,900	1,095	—	—	—	236	40
Grand Bay, Mustique	—	—	—	—	—	3,600	—	100	—	—	200	70
Cinnamon Garden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,600	—	75	—
TOTAL	92	26	178	53 22	1½	231,444	6,353	250	2,320	2,386	2,030	221

Return of Produce manufactured in the several Parishes and Grenadines during the Year 1855—*continued.*

RECAPITULATION.

PARISHES.	Sugar.			Puncheons of Rum.	Puncheons of Molasses.	Pounds of Sugar.	Gallons of Rum.	Gallons of Molasses.	Pounds of Arrow Root.	Pounds of Cocoa.	Pounds of Cotton.	Number of Labourers.	Acres of Land.
	Hogsheads.	Tierces.	Barrels.										
Charlotte Parish - - - -	2,759	7	23	1,236 Hhds. 19	265	4,959,005	120,213	31,425	161,811	—	—	2,020	5,953
Saint George's - - -	1,556	110	219½	470½	215½	2,819,518	47,445	20,888	162,268	400	—	672	3,737
Saint Andrew's - - -	842	18	11	123½	388	1,316,112	13,016	39,527	11,370	—	—	481	3,292
Saint Patrick's - - - -	466	25	138	244½	24¼	850,413	23,826	2,238½	152,539	100	—	425	2,681
Saint David's - - -	484	50	74	78	97	887,760	7,156	10,845	4,680	—	—	590	3,388
The Grenadines - - - -	92	26	178	53 Hhds. 22	1½	231,444	6,353	250	2,320	—	2,386	221	2,030
	6,199	236	643½	2,205	991¼	11,064,252	218,009	105,273½	494,988	500	2,386	4,509	21,081

Treasury, St. Vincent.

(Signed) J. M. Grant, Treasurer.

Police Office, Kingstown, Friday,
18th April 1856.

SIR,

1. I forward you for the use of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in any way he may think, a return made up from the 18th day of May 1844, the date of my first appointment as police magistrate for this district, to the 31st day of December 1855, showing the statistics year by year in respect to the summary administration of justice within this district, divided into periods during the existence of the first set of Police Acts, "The Police Act, 1849," and "The Police Act, 1853."

2. Upon a similar but somewhat improved basis returns may be easily drawn up annually for each colony, and by that means similar statistics may be furnished for the whole colonial empire, and by being annually forwarded to the colonial government may be also annually laid before Parliament, affording an indication accompanied by a correct census of the progress of civilization in each colony.

3. I have some gratification in attracting the notice of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to the state of the district in 1845 and its contrast in 1855, although otherwise so little effort has been made for the educational and social improvement of the masses of the population during the intervening period.

4. I made up this report in the hope of forwarding it to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor with my quarterly and annual returns made up to the 31st day of December 1855, but I have been unable until lately to make a copy of the one drawn up.

I am, &c.,

George Hammond Hawtayne, Esq.,
Private Secretary.

(Signed) JAMES CROSBY,
P. M. K. D., and J. P.

AN ANALYSIS of the ANNUAL RETURNS of CASES summarily heard, tried, and determined, or otherw
Government of the Island of Saint Vincent and its Dependencies, from the 18th day of May 1844, t
Existence of the Police Acts 1842, 1843, 1845, 1847, and 1848, of "The Police Act, 1849," and

DATE.	THE POLICE ACTS. The Act called SHEPHERD'S ACT. THE PETTY THEFT ACT.															Total Offences under these Acts.		
	Assault and Battery.			Larceny, Embezzlement, obtaining Money under false Pretences, and receiving of stolen Goods.			Damage to Property with Intent to steal and damage only.			Threatening, abusive, and insulting Words and Behaviour.			Other Offences.					
	Complaints.	Convictions.	Commitments.	Complaints.	Convictions.	Commitments.	Complaints.	Convictions.	Commitments.	Complaints.	Convictions.	Commitments.	Complaints.	Convictions.	Commitments.	Complaints.	Convictions.	Commitments.
During the year from the 18th May 1844 - 1844	181	91	17	68	36	17	20	9	2	210	106	9	110	64	4	589	316	
During the year - 1845	336	202	38	124	59	35	31	13	5	242	131	23	190	85	49	923	490	1
Do. - - 1846	248	120	50	86	46	30	18	10	7	254	142	44	195	90	38	801	408	1
Do. - - 1847	200	86	16	87	49	33	6	1	1	187	85	20	138	33	22	618	254	
Do. - - 1848	208	101	21	80	50	36	10	4	3	147	75	21	93	36	19	538	266	1
During the year to the 3d March 1849 - - 1849	32	15	2	8	5	4	3	—	—	28	13	4	18	3	3	89	36	
Totals -	1,205	615	144	453	245	155	88	37	18	1,068	552	121	744	311	135	3,558	1,770	5
	THE POLICE ACT, 1849. The Act called SHEPHERD'S ACT. THE PETTY THEFT ACT.															Total under these Acts.		
During the year from the 9th October 1849 - 1849	54	31	7	10	9	7	2	4	—	43	25	8	60	33	20	169	102	
During the year - 1850	216	100	24	68	44	33	27	15	5	180	79	11	221	115	49	713	353	1
Do. - - 1851	187	92	17	51	27	21	11	5	4	208	98	11	161	89	30	618	311	
During the year to the 18th December 1852 - 1852	207	64	23	76	33	25	17	5	2	156	64	19	216	107	26	672	273	
Totals -	664	287	71	205	113	86	57	29	11	587	266	49	658	344	125	2,172	1,039	3
	THE OFFENCE ACT, 1854.															Total under this Act.		
During the year from the 1st May 1854 - 1854	115	47	7	53	16	12	13	1	—	19	6	4	38	19	4	238	89	
During the year - 1855	130	61	5	70	34	29	18	5	—	107	43	13	174	83	21	499	226	
Totals -	245	108	12	123	50	41	31	6	—	126	49	17	212	102	25	737	315	
	The Total Number of cases heard,																	
During the first period -	1,205	615	144	453	245	155	88	37	18	1,068	552	121	744	311	135	3,558	1,770	5
Do. second period	664	287	71	205	113	86	57	29	11	587	266	49	658	344	125	2,172	1,039	3
Do. third period	245	108	12	123	50	41	31	6	—	126	49	17	212	102	25	737	315	
Totals -	2,114	1,010	227	781	408	282	176	72	29	1,781	867	187	1,614	757	285	3,467	3,124	1,0
	A comparison between the Number of C																	
During the year - 1845	336	20	38	124	59	35	31	13	5	242	131	23	190	85	49	923	490	1
Do. - - 1855	130	61	5	70	34	29	18	5	—	107	43	13	174	83	21	499	226	
Increase with the year 1855 - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Decrease with the year 1855 - - -	206	141	33	54	25	6	13	8	5	135	88	10	16	2	28	424	264	

isposed of, by JAMES CROSBY, Esquire, Police Magistrate for the Kingstown Police District, in the ay on which he was first appointed Police Magistrate, to the 31st Day of December 1855, during the he present Act, "The Police Act, 1853."

Offences under other Acts—Tax, Market, Town, Seamen's, Wine, Charcoal, Import, Vestry, and Friendly Societies.			Number of Cases sent to the Grand Sessions.	Total Number of Police Informations and Charges, and Complaints.			The Petty Debt Acts.						General Total of all Complaints.	REMARKS.
								Judgments given		Warrants of Execution issued.				
Complaints.	Convictions.	Commitments.		Complaints.	Convictions.	Commitments.	Complaints.	For Complainants.	For Defendants.		Cases paid or partly paid.	Commitments.		
61	17	9	12	650	333	58	190	150		49	36	—	840	The Petty Debt Acts, 1838–1844.
115	59	13	20	1,038	549	163	—	—		—	—	—	1,038	These acts were so defective as to be found inoperative.
84	30	13	18	885	438	182	713	555		229	337	46	1,598	The Petty Debt Act, 1846, came into operation 13th May 1846.
74	23	6	17	692	277	98	386	324		111	171	11	1,078	During the existence of these Acts, 1838, 1844, and 1846, the Police Magistrate paid all expenses of clerk hire, &c.
69	8	4	20	607	274	104	580	433		138	143	23	1,187	
1	—	—	1	90	36	13	78	28		20	20	—	169	
404	137	45	88	3,962	1,907	618	1,947	1,490		547	707	80	5,910	
4	1	—	2	173	103	42	—	—		—	—	—	—	The Petty Debt Act, 1846, had expired. The Police Act, 1849, repealed the other Acts as it passed the Assembly, but those clauses were struck out by the Council.
27	8	—	7	740	361	122	—	—		—	—	—	—	
29	5	4	7	647	316	87	—	—		—	—	—	—	
19	10	4	15	691	283	99	180	121		57	59	9	871	The Petty Debt Act, 1852, came into operation 13th May 1852.
79	24	8	31	2,251	1,063	350	180	121		57	59	9	3,122	
91	37	17	4	329	126	44	218	99	18	55	49	9	546	The Summary Offence Act, 1854, came into operation on the 22d August 1854, so that from the 1st May 1854 to that date many cases could only be dealt with by the Common Law, and were classed under "Other Acts," in the same manner as during the first period.
17	3	2	3	516	229	70	309	268	28	171	147	28	825	
108	40	19	7	845	355	114	527	367	46	226	196	37	1,371	
uring the respective periods above mentioned.														
404	137	45	88	3,962	1,907	618	1,947	1,490		547	707	80	5,910	A period of 4 years 9½ months.
79	24	8	31	2,251	1,063	350	180	121		57	59	9	3,122	A period of 3 years 2¼ months.
108	40	19	7	845	355	114	527	396		226	196	37	1,371	A period of 1 year 8 months.
591	201	72	126	7,058	3,325	1,082	2,654	2,007		830	962	126	10,403	A period of 9 years 7¾ months.
heard, &c. in 1845, and those heard, &c. in 1855.														
115	59	13	20	1,038	549	163	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,038	The first whole year after first appointment.
17	3	2	3	516	229	70	309	268	28	171	147	28	825	The last whole year after last appointment.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	309	268	28	171	147	28	—	
98	56	11	17	522	320	93	—	—	—	—	—	—	213	

(Signed) JAMES CROSBY,
P. M. K. D., and J. P.

AN ANALYSIS of the ANNUAL STATEMENTS of the PENALTIES and FINES imposed and collected and oth
District, in the Government of the Island of St. Vincent and its Dependencies, from the 18th Day
during the existence of the Police Acts 1842, 1843, 1845, 1847, and 1848, of "The Police Act, 184

DATE.	Charges made by the Police.							Penalti		
	No. of Charges.	No. of Convictions.	No. of Commitments.	No. of Charges made by the Police and sent to the Grand Sessions.	Penalties and Fines imposed in consequence of Police Charges.	Penalties and Fines paid in consequence of Police Charges.	Amount of Fees occasioned by Police Charges, not charged, Felonies, &c.	Imposed by the Police Magistrates during the 9 Years 7¾ Months.	Paid by Defendants to the Police Magistrate during the 9 Years and 7¾ Months.	Fees paid to the Police Magistrate and paid into the Treasury.
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
During the year from the 18th May - - 1844	139	74	12	7	41 8 0	23 18 0	22 4 6	355 16 7½	149 12 7	—
During the year - 1845	186	103	28	3	341 4 3½	63 11 7½	42 10 2	645 9 11	208 4 2	—
Do. - - 1846	145	78	46	1	57 12 0	19 7 4	46 12 6	368 17 9	110 1 11	—
Do. - - 1847	124	51	20	—	43 5 7	15 8 7	36 3 0	242 13 0	99 11 4	—
Do. - - 1848	93	37	21	4	50 13 6	9 0 6	48 13 4	228 12 9	83 5 5	—
During the year to 3d March - 1849	11	4	3	1	5 1 0	2 0 0	2 14 0	24 19 6	6 19 0	—
Totals -	698	347	130	16	539 4 4½	133 6 0½	198 17 6	1,866 9 6½	657 14 5	—
										During the Period
During the year from October 1849	51	31	21	1	16 10 6	2 13 0	7 14 0	61 15 2	21 7 2	—
During the year - 1850	163	103	52	4	82 16 0	33 8 0	32 15 6	307 17 3	123 12 3	—
Do. - - 1851	121	71	29	—	46 17 6	22 6 0	24 16 6	286 12 1	96 1 1	—
During the year to 18th December - - 1852	162	94	27	5	47 3 6	22 10 6	38 1 0	209 8 6	95 17 1	—
Totals -	497	299	129	10	193 7 6	80 17 6	103 7 0	865 13 0	336 18 1	—
										During the Period
							Paid to Treasurer.			
During the year from 1st May - 1854	47	19	7	—	4 0 0	2 0 0	2 17 0	75 4 1	30 11 1	64 14
During the year - 1855	92	41	22	—	15 0 0	10 5 0	7 7 0	77 5 8	49 1 8	103 17
Totals -	139	60	29	—	19 0 0	12 5 0	10 4 0	152 9 9	79 12 9	168 11
										The Total Amount of Penalties and Fines imposed and collected and othe
During the first period -	698	347	130	16	539 4 4½	133 6 0½	198 17 6	1,866 9 6½	657 14 5	—
Do. second period	497	299	129	10	193 7 6	80 17 6	103 7 0	865 13 0	336 18 1	—
Do. third period -	139	60	27	—	19 0 0	12 5 0	10 4 0	152 9 9	79 12 9	168 11
Totals -	1,334	706	286	26	751 11 10½	226 8 6½	312 8 6	2,884 12 3½	1,074 5 3	168 11
										A Comparison between the Amount of Penalties, &c
During the year - 1845	186	103	28	3	341 4 3½	63 11 7½	42 10 2	645 9 4	208 4 2	—
Do. - - 1855	92	41	22	—	15 0 0	10 5 0	7 7 0	77 5 8	49 1 8	103 17
Increase in year 1855 -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	103 17
Decrease in year 1855 -	94	62	6	3	326 4 3½	53 6 7½	35 3 2	568 4 3	159 2 6	—

Sums of MONEY and FEES received by JAMES CROSBY, Esquire, Police Magistrate for the Kingstown Police May 1844, the Day on which he was first appointed Police Magistrate, to 31st Day of December 1855, nd of the present Act, "The Police Act, 1855."

Penalties and Fines remaining outstanding and unpaid during the 9 Years 7¾ Months.	Penalties or Fines and Costs paid by Defendants in Gaol to the Gaoler during 9 Years and 7¾ Months.	How disposed of by Police Magistrate.					Amounts of the Proceeds of the Seizures of Sugar, Charcoal, Unclaimed Goods, &c., made by and in the Custody of Police, and how disposed of by Police Magistrate.			Total Amount of Sums paid by and through the Police Magistrate during 9 Years 7¾ Months to all Persons in consequence of Police Informations, Charges, and Complaints.
		Paid to the Treasurer.	Paid to the Informers.	Paid to Prosecutors by way of Compensation or Amends.	Paid to the Church-wardens.	Fees paid to the Treasurer by Police Magistrate.	Paid to the Police.	Paid to the Treasurer.	Paid to the Police Fund.	
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1 13 11	3 6 9	127 13 7	0 15 0	2 14 8½	10 19 10¼	—	11 3 3½	0 17 5½	—	157 10 7½
—	20 18 4	160 13 0	10 14 7	7 4 5½	1 4 4	—	6 8 10½	11 19 8	5 9 9½	224 13 0½
27 1 8	48 18 0	62 6 11	2 17 10¼	17 12 1½	2 7 2	—	1 2 0½	—	—	135 4 1¼
9 10 6	13 19 4	97 6 11	1 10 6	12 2 7½	0 13 11	—	1 1 3½	0 19 10	—	127 14 4½
11 12 8	17 15 6	82 0 5	1 5 0	5 18 9	—	—	1 16 6	—	1 3 6	109 19 8
—	3 0 0	6 19 0	—	5 5 9	0 3 10½	—	0 4 7½	—	—	15 13 3
49 18 9	107 17 11	536 19 10	17 2 11¼	50 18 5	15 9 1¾	—	21 16 7½	13 16 11½	6 13 3½	770 15 1

"The Police Act, 1849."

0 3 0	3 2 6	21 7 2	—	4 15 8	—	—	0 12 11	0 12 11	—	30 11 2
					Paid to the Seamen's Hospital, London.				Paid to the Secretary-at-War.	
2 0 0	16 2 0	104 17 3	12 10 0	16 5 0½	5 0 0	—	5 13 7¼	6 8 2¾	1 5 0	168 1 1½
3 12 6	22 15 0	96 1 1	—	6 2 10½	—	—	2 11 11½	3 2 0	—	130 12 11
			To Colonial Hospital.							
12 6 0	2 18 6	87 11 8	1 0 10	7 16 9	7 5 0	—	2 9 9½	1 9 6	—	110 12 0½
18 1 6	44 18 0	309 17 2	13 10 10	35 0 4	12 5 0	—	11 8 3¼	11 12 7¾	1 5 0	439 17 3

"The Police Act, 1853." — Appeal Cases afterwards paid, 5*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* Amends, 5*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* / Amends paid in jail, 8*s.* 4*d.* } 6*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* + 5*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* = 12*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* — 12 0 2

4 12 0	1 15 0	33 13 1	—	18 5 8	—	64 14 0	1 6 7	1 6 7	—	121 0 11
7 0 0	2 14 6	48 16 8	0 5 0	18 13 6½	—	103 17 3	8 10 7½	8 10 7½	—	191 8 2½
11 12 0	4 9 6	82 9 9	0 5 0	36 19 2½	—	168 11 3	9 17 2½	9 17 2½	—	312 9 1½

Sums of Money received and paid during the respective Periods above mentioned.

49 18 9	107 17 11	536 19 10	17 2 11¼	50 18 5	15 9 1¾	—	21 16 7½	13 16 11¼	6 13 3½	770 15 1
18 1 6	44 18 0	309 17 2	13 10 10	35 0 4	12 5 0	—	11 8 3¾	11 12 7¾	1 5 0	439 17 3
11 12 0	4 9 6	82 9 9	0 5 0	36 19 2½	—	168 11 3	9 17 2½	9 17 2½	—	312 9 1½
79 12 5	157 5 5	929 6 9	30 18 9½	122 17 11¼	27 14 1¾	168 11 3	43 2 1	35 6 9½	7 18 3½	1,523 1 5¼
									See above - -	12 0 2
									Total - £	1,535 1 7½

and Sums of Money paid, &c. in 1845 and in 1855.

—	20 18 4	160 13 0	10 14 7	7 4 5½	1 4 4	—	6 8 10½	11 19 8	5 9 9½	224 13 0½
7 0 0	2 14 6	48 16 8	0 5 0	18 13 6½	—	103 17 3	8 10 7½	8 10 7½	—	191 8 2½
7 0 0	—	—	—	11 19 1	—	103 17 3	2 1 9	—	—	—
—	18 3 10	111 16 4	10 9 7	—	1 4 4	—	—	3 9 0½	5 9 9½	33 4 10

(Signed) JAMES CROSBY,
P. M. K. D., and J. P.

ST. VINCENT.

DETAILED ACCOUNT of PUBLIC DEBT of this Colony on January 1, 1856.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Administration of Justice:						
Chief Justice	205	0	0			
Attorney-general	100	0	0			
Provost-marshal	131	5	0			
Clerk of Crown	12	10	0			
Keeper of Court-house	10	8	4			
Police magistrate of Kingstown	102	10	0			
,, Windward district	51	5	0			
,, Calliaqua district	51	5	0			
,, Leeward district	51	5	0			
(4 days deducted) Grenadines district	30	12	2			
Four petty debt constables	40	0	0			
Kingstown ditto (one month)	3	6	8			
Three constables to special magistrates	11	0	0			
Medical attendance at inquests	4	4	0			
Rent of police stations	29	9	7			
Attorney-general, for opinions, &c.	13	13	0			
				852	13	9
Ecclesiastical Establishment:						
Rector of St. George and St. Andrew's	116	13	4			
,, Charlotte parish	85	0	0			
,, St. Patrick and St. David's	87	10	0			
,, Grenadines	35	2	8			
Two curates, Charlotte parish	75	0	0			
Curate of St. David's	37	10	0			
Parish clerks	15	0	0			
Grant to Chateaubellair Church	100	0	0			
				551	16	0
Revenue Establishment:						
Treasurer and collector of imports	162	10	0			
Three landing waiters	110	2	3			
Clerk under the Rum Act	37	10	0			
				310	2	3
Civil Establishment:						
Colonial agent	65	0	0			
Colonial secretary	62	10	0			
Colonial engineer	87	10	0			
				215	0	0
Prisons:						
Gaoler	8	6	8			
Three turnkeys and matron	16	13	4			
Chaplain	15	0	0			
Surgeon	12	10	0			
Feeding prisoners	31	18	4			
				84	8	4
Legislative Establishment:						
Speaker to 18th December	42	19	0			
Messenger to December	12	17	6			
Clerk to 31st December	41	10	0			
Clerk of Council to December	25	0	0			
Sergeant-at-arms to December	12	10	0			
Stationery for Clerk of Assembly	3	15	0			
				138	11	6
Police:						
Force	138	15	1			
Superintendent	14	15	8			
Armourer and extras	7	1	10			
				160	12	7
Miscellaneous:						
Colonial hospital	150	0	0			
Agricultural grant	50	0	0			
Roads	275	0	0			
Society for education of poor	37	10	0			
Allowance to special magistrates for stationery	15	0	0			
Printing, stationery, &c.	84	6	8			
				611	16	8
				2,926	1	1

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Recapitulation of unpaid accounts (as before mentioned) up to 31st December 1855.						
Civil establishment	215	0	0			
Judicial establishment	852	13	9			
Ecclesiastical establishment	551	16	0			
Legislative establishment	138	11	6			
Revenue establishment	310	2	3			
Prison establishment	84	8	4			
Police establishment	160	12	7			
Miscellaneous	611	16	8			
	2,925	1	1			
Balance on 1st January available to meet the above	61	18	2			
				2,863	2	11
Unpaid public accounts up to 31st December 1854	767	13	4			
Funds on 1st January available to meet the above	153	3	11			
				613	9	5
				3,476	12	4
Unpaid treasury notes, with interest to 31st December				784	3	8
Account of estate of J. Rickard	288	18	9			
„ W. Dyer	275	0	0			
„ C. Clinton	90	0	0			
				653	18	9
				4,914	14	9
The following were not included in public accounts for 1854, although belonging to that year:						
Rent of police station, Grenadines, from 3d April to 31st December 1854	7	2	1			
Allowance of stationery to R. Sutherland, Esq., stipendiary justice, for quarter ending 31st December	0	16	8			
Rent of police station, Calliaqua, from 1st February to 31st December	14	4	2			
Rent of ditto on Adelphi estate, quarter ending 31st December	5	0	0			
				27	2	11
The following accounts were included in a return of the debt of the colony on 1st January 1855, furnished to the executive in April last:						
Gilpin and Co., clothing for police	69	3	0			
Clowes and Son, printing acts of legislature	81	3	4			
				150	6	4
Clowes and Son, account rendered in 1855 for forms to be annexed as schedules to the Summary Procedure Act, 1853, and for the use of justices of the peace				80	6	9
Account rendered by Board of Health to Legislature, of unpaid cholera debts not yet audited	1,005	12	3			
Less proceeds of additional Import Act to 31st December	256	10	4			
				749	1	11
				£5,921	12	8

Treasury, St. Vincent,
January 15, 1856.

(Signed) J. M. GRANT, Treasurer.

ST. LUCIA.
No. 19.

ST. LUCIA.

No. 19.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HINCKS to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE M.P.

(No. 14.)

Enclosure 2. sent separate.
No. 39. May 20, 1856, with 11 Enclosures.

SIR, Windward Islands, Barbados, May 22, 1856.

I have the honour to transmit the St. Lucia "Blue Book" for the year 1855, together with the Report accompanying it, from the officer administering the government of that island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 19.

Enclosure in No. 19.

(No. 39.)

SIR, St. Lucia, May 20, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the "Blue Book" for the year 1855, in duplicate, together with an abstract of the Returns contained therein, and of the Blue Books for the four preceding years.

2. Having only very recently been called upon to assume the provisional administration of the government of Saint Lucia, I must necessarily confine my observations to a few of the more important particulars comprised in the annual Blue Book.

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
The estimated revenue for 1855 was - - -	12,550	0	0
The net revenue of the year was - - - -	12,145	6	10½
Short of estimate -	£404	13	1½

	£	s.	d.
The net revenue of 1854 was - - - -	14,087	4	6
The net revenue of 1855 was - - - -	12,145	6	10½
Decrease in 1855 of -	£1,941	17	7½

2. The decrease is principally under the items of customs and rum duty, the two chief sources of revenue, and may be ascribed to the effects of cholera, the stagnation of trade, and the large export of island rum, upon which no duty is payable, no less than 38,564 gallons of rum having been shipped in 1855, against 15,141 gallons in 1854, and 2,243 gallons in 1853.

3. The duty upon rum made and consumed in the island forms an important item of revenue, which it is believed might be advantageously augmented were the law amended in some respects, and the staff of revenue officers made more efficient.

4. For a series of eight years preceding the establishment of the system now in operation, under various modes of collecting the duty upon rum, such as a direct tax on stills, or a specific duty on rum manufactured, the annual revenue averaged only 2,812*l.*, including one year in which the excise system was tried, and which alone gave 5,164*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*, the year previous to the adoption of the existing mode of collecting the duty giving only 1,753*l.* 5*s.*

5. The average revenue of the last three years, under the present rum duty ordinance, amounted to 4,308*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*, or an increase of 1,495*l.* 14*s.* per annum, the amount of duty never exceeding but averaging nearly the same as in former years.

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
The estimated expenditure for 1855 was - - -	12,385	10	0
The net expenditure was - - - - -	14,791	8	11
Increase over estimate -	2,405	18	11

	£	s.	d.
The net expenditure of 1854 was - - -	13,565	1	4½
The net expenditure of 1855 was - - -	14,791	8	11
Increase in 1855 -	1,226	7	6½

2. If, however, the extraordinary outlay of 2,131*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*, incurred on account of cholera and militia expenses, be deducted, as forming no part of the ordinary annual expenditure, it would appear as 12,660*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* against 12,565*l.* 1*s.* 4½*d.*, or a decrease of 905*l.*, on the expenditure of the year 1855, as compared with that of the preceding year.

3. It results, therefore, that if the net decrease on the revenue was 1,941*l.* 17*s.* 7½*d.*, and the net increase of expenditure was 1,226*l.* 7*s.* 6½*d.*, the total amount against the transactions of the year 1855 was a deficit of—

	£	s.	d.
	£3,168	5	2
together with the balance of cash, 31st December - -	456	8	11
making in all a sum of - - - -	3,624	14	1

subject to the following changes:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Personal balances - -	2,379	19	10½			
Balance of cash, January 1, 1855 -	1,125	5	7½			
				3,509	5	6

by which is shown that had the revenue not decreased, and the expenditure been so materially increased by the visitation of cholera, there would have been a surplus balance at the end of the year of 115*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*

Public Debts.

A loan of 3,000*l.* sterling on debentures, redeemable in 20 years, was obtained in 1852, for the formation and repair of roads in this island, under the provisions of the Act of the Imperial Parliament, 11 and 12 Vic. cap. 130., entitled "An Act for guaranteeing the interest on such loan not exceeding five "hundred thousand pounds as may be raised by the British Colonies on the "continent of South America, in the West Indies, and the Mauritius, for "certain purposes."

2. The interest and sinking fund of this loan are provided for by a local ordinance imposing an export tax upon sugar, molasses, and rum, at and after the following rates:

	s.	d.
Sugar, per 100 lbs. - - - -	0	1½
Molasses, per puncheon - - - -	1	0
Rum, per puncheon - - - -	2	0

3. A loan of 15,000*l.* sterling has likewise been accorded to the colony, under like conditions, by the Imperial Government, for the purpose of introducing coolie immigrants into the island, which loan is also guaranteed and provided for by an export tax on produce.

4. The road loan has been already expended. The immigration loan has not yet been drawn upon.

Public Works.

A building has been fitted up and adopted for the reception of lunatics.

2. Dangerous lunatics were formerly confined within the Royal Gaol, but this being considered objectionable, it became necessary to provide a separate place for their safe custody.

ST. LUCIA.

3. The number of insane persons now under confinement is six, most of them being quiet and inoffensive creatures.

4. Some repairs have been made to the Royal Gaol, and the rooms formerly occupied by insane prisoners are now appropriated for the detention of juvenile offenders. The frequent escape of prisoners demonstrates the necessity of something further being done to render the prison more secure.

Roads.

There unfortunately exists much cause of complaint in regard to the state of the roads and bridges of the island, which have been so damaged by the incessant rains which fell during the past year as to render them in many places almost impracticable, whilst such indispensable repairs as were made became soon imperceptible, under the destructive floods.

2. It is a work of no ordinary difficulty to keep the roads of so mountainous a country in anything like repair, and this difficulty has been greatly enhanced by the inadequate means at the disposal of the Government. An ordinance has, however, been lately passed by the Legislature, to make further and better provision for the repair of the roads, from which measure much good is expected, so soon as it can be brought into full operation.

3. It is much to be regretted that the Legislative Council, when passing this additional road ordinance, did not consent to the proposal made by the Government for the appointment of a competent engineer or road surveyor to direct and superintend the road repairs and other public works. I am satisfied that until some such scientific supervision is established no permanent amelioration of the roads and bridges of the island can be effected.

Prisoners.

Compared with previous years, there has been an increase in the number of prisoners. Of the number convicted, 10 were offences against the person and 171 against property, being an increase of 33 on the number of convictions during the year 1854; of the total number convicted, 28 were prisoners tried before the Criminal Assize Court, and sentenced to punishments varying from two years to two months' imprisonment, with or without hard labour, and 153 were misdemeanors tried before inferior Courts, in which sentences of from one to three weeks were awarded. There were 24 soldiers imprisoned during the year for military offences.

2. The expenditure on account of the gaol has been greatly augmented by the increase in the number incarcerated, and by the high price of provisions. I am inclined to think that the cost of the maintenance of the prisoners in the Royal Gaol might be considerably diminished by the employment of the penal gang in the cultivation of ground provisions for their own use.

Legislation.

Of the legislative measures passed by the Council during the year, the following are the most important:—An ordinance "to make further and better "provision for the repair and maintenance of the roads and bridges of this "island," and an ordinance "to provide for the due admission of idiots, "lunatics, and persons of unsound mind into the lunatic asylum of the island, "and to prevent the improper confinement therein of persons represented or "alleged to be labouring under any mental infirmity."

2. It having been found by experience that a large portion of the able-bodied inhabitants of the island were exempted, under the road ordinance of 1851, from contributing towards an object of such general utility and importance as the maintenance of the public highways, the additional road ordinance above referred to was passed to remedy this defect, and advantage was taken at the same time to improve the system of administration by the appointment of district road committees.

3. The ordinance imposes an annual road tax of six shillings and sixpence upon all male inhabitants between the ages of 16 and 60, commutable by six days personal service, exempting all such as shall have paid the road and education tax under the ordinance of 1851, or who shall have paid the Castries corporation house tax for the current year.

Education.

The number of children attending schools has considerably decreased, which may be attributed in some degree to the prevalence of cholera in the previous year, when the schools were temporarily closed, the children at that time withdrawn not having since returned to school; but it cannot be denied that the general attendance at any time has never been what it should have been, considering the large number of children throughout the colony.

2. To the ignorance and consequent indifference of the parents in regard to the important question of educating their children is to be ascribed much of the evil in this respect; but I apprehend little doubt can be entertained that there exists a counteracting influence to the advancement of the schools in another form, which has been adverted to by one of the stipendiary magistrates in an official report to the Government, in the following terms:—"One of the "great, in fact the greatest, causes of the failure of the schools, exists in the "marked and undisguised dislike of the Roman Catholic ministers to the "system pursued in them, for I have often heard it stated that they have even "threatened to refuse the rites of the Church to parents who should send their "children to them. There is, it appears, religion inculcated in some way "or other; if such is not the fact, the ministers think so, and that is quite "sufficient. I have no hesitation in stating that it is my firm conviction that "without the countenance of the clergy the schools cannot prosper in the "country places. They may do so in Castries or Soufriere, but nowhere else. "It would be next door to throwing away money to continue the schools "under the present system, and if the rising population are to be educated at "all, the co-operation of the clergy must be secured, by permitting them a "certain supervision over the schools, if such be absolutely necessary."

"This is a Roman Catholic community, and it is evident that the clergy "will have the people educated in that faith and according to their ideas, or "not at all."

3. There is much truth in this opinion, given by a magistrate who I may remark is himself a Protestant, and it is in perfect accordance with the views expressed by his Excellency Lieutenant Governor Power, in his last despatch on this subject. In many cases there may be no open opposition, but in all there exists a secret hostile influence, which I am convinced operates most prejudicially to the cause of education generally.

4. The trustees of the Mico charity cannot be expected to sanction the interference of the Roman Catholic Clergy with the schools established by the charity in this island, and it would be impolitic in the extreme to attempt any thing which might endanger the Mico schools, from which so much real good has been derived; but I think that a larger portion of the education fund than that now given might with advantage be bestowed upon other schools having teachers belonging to the Roman Catholic Church, in favour of which the support of the clergy would be thus secured.

5. Adverting to the suggestion made by his Excellency Lieutenant Governor Power, in his Report on the Blue Book for 1854, respecting the creation of industrial schools, I have to report that the proposition has not been favourably entertained by the trustees of the Mico Charity, who contribute largely towards the maintenance of the island schools, and whose co-operation in the matter had been requested, the funds at the disposal of the Board of Education being altogether inadequate for the purpose contemplated. The trustees object to the plan suggested, on the ground that it would involve a complete remodelling of the present system, and require a large outlay beyond what their present means will admit, and that the system hitherto pursued has worked well, and has given general satisfaction to the landed proprietors.

6. I can bear willing testimony to the good results attendant upon the establishment of the schools of the Mico Trust in this island, the first of which has been the propagation of a knowledge of the English language throughout the colony; but I have long been of opinion, that, considering the class of pupils drawn from the labouring population, too much is attempted by the teachers, who are trained to a particular system; and that were the instruction imparted limited to the rudimentary and elementary branches of education, more real practical benefit would be derived, than by inculcating lessons in astronomy, or abstruse questions of Scriptural geography. Reading, writing, and the first

rules of arithmetic, with some slight knowledge of geography, are all that is required. To attempt to give more is not only fruitless in its results, but is, in my opinion, manifestly injurious, and calculated to unfit the pupils for that station of life which they are destined to fill on returning to their parents.

Agriculture.

The enhanced price of colonial produce towards the close of the year operated as a stimulus to extend the cultivation, but further than this little can be noted in the way of improvement, either in agriculture or manufactures.

2. The island does not possess labourers sufficiently numerous to create competition, and the labour bestowed on the cultivation of the staple products of the country is consequently given capriciously and in a desultory manner, so as to frustrate all calculation or preconcerted arrangement on the part of the employers.

3. The estates' work suffers much also from the withdrawal of the labour diverted to the cutting of logwood, which from its high price in the market, and the facility of procuring it by stealth from the waste lands of the Crown or vacant successions, has induced a large number of the more robust labourers to abandon the steady cultivation of the cane.

4. This abstraction of labour from the cultivation of the soil has at the same time seriously diminished the supply of ground provisions, such as cassava, Indian corn, plantains, potatoes, &c., &c, upon which in ordinary times the sustenance of the population so much depends, and the rarity of those articles of food has consequently greatly increased the cost of living, and the expenditure for the maintenance of prisoners and paupers.

5. Provision has been made, through the aid of an imperial loan, to introduce coolie immigrants into the island, and their arrival, which has been much retarded, is anxiously looked for.

Militia.

The militia force called into existence at the close of the year 1854 is composed of two battalions, consisting of one artillery and five light companies each; the northern battalion 343, and the southern battalion 220 men; total strength 567.

2. The militia, as a body, have made considerable progress in their drill, particularly the northern battalion, the officers of which have manifested more zeal and interest in the advancement of their companies than, I regret to say, has been exhibited on the part of the southern battalion.

3. Much valuable assistance in the organization of the militia has been afforded by the officer in command of Her Majesty's troops at Morne Fortune, by allowing a certain number of non-commissioned officers and men to act as drill instructors to the officers and privates of the militia; and I am happy to report that this assistance is to be continued, by directions of Her Majesty's Secretary of War, who has also intimated his intention to recommend that proper arms and accoutrements for the militia should be furnished at the cost of the Home Government.

4. The clothing has been ordered from England. The estimated cost is 800*l*., to be paid by the men.

5. I have no doubt that, under proper discipline and supervision, the militia might be speedily organized, and rendered capable of maintaining order and tranquillity in the island, and that their services in the case of foreign invasion would be valuable as an auxiliary to the regular forces.

General Observations.

The revenue from import duties in 1855 was less by 1,892*l*. 13*s*. 10*d*. than the receipts under the same head in the preceding year, and the total value of imports was less by 40,784*l*. 6*s*. 6*d*.

2. I annex a return of imports (Appendix A.), which has been prepared by the treasurer. This table gives a statement of the importations during five years, and shows a considerable falling off in the articles of bread, flour, fish, and salted meats, and other provisions, which may in a great measure be ascribed to the ravages of epidemic cholera in the last half year of 1824, diminishing the already scanty population of the island by nearly 2,500 souls.

3. I have also had prepared a statement of staple exports of the island during the last seventeen years (Appendix B.) (Appendix C.), with a table showing the average exports of the sixteen years preceding 1855, compared with the exports of the latter year.

4. The export of sugar has not reached the average; but the exports of cocoa and of logwood have greatly augmented, both of these last-mentioned articles having been in great demand during the last two years. Farine manioc is the only article of provisions exported from the island, and that has fallen off from 1,437 barrels in 1852 to 23½ in 1855, it being no longer called for in the neighbouring French islands, to which it is usually exported.

5. The returns of sugar exported are taken from the records of the customs; but it must be observed that the quantity declared by the exporter as calculated according to the truss of the casks as fixed by law, is at least one sixth less than the quantity actually exported, and is invariably much less than the return given by the stipendiary magistrates of the sugar produced in their respective districts.

6. In 1855 there were eighty-five sugar estates in cultivation, employing 3,200 labourers, at daily wages varying from 10*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*, with free occupation of houses and provision grounds. The labour bestowed on the cultivation of the sugar estates is not, however continuous, and the number stated as being so employed comprises the greatest number employed at any one time during the year, so that not more than one eighth of the population are engaged in the cultivation and manufacture of the staple export of the island, producing an average of 2,086 pounds of sugar per head; but from the number so returned as employed in cane cultivation at least one fourth must be deducted to obtain a fair average return of labourers actually employed throughout the year, which would give an average weight of 2,764 pounds of sugar for each labourer employed, an estimate which I believe corresponds with the experience of the most practical planters in the island.

7. I have prepared and annex to this Report three tables, containing some interesting information respecting the cultivation of sugar in this colony.

No. 1. is a return of sugar estates in cultivation in 1855, showing the average number of labourers employed, the number of acres of land cultivated in canes, the quantity of produce made, and the proportion of sugar to each labourer employed.

No. 2. is a return showing the population employed in agriculture (including manufacture), the average rate of wages, quantity of sugar exported, with the average price of sugar, for a series of five years, 1851 to 1855 inclusive.

No. 3. a table showing the cost of one cwt. of sugar when embarked, and the freight and charges attending its sale.

8. The calculations in this table have been made from returns furnished by some of the most intelligent of the planters in the island, and the variation in the amount of the cost of production may be ascribed to the omission in some instances of certain items which are taken into account in others.

9. Attached to this table are two statements setting forth in detail the several items of expenditure attending the cultivation, manufacture, and sale of one cwt. of sugar.

10. Since emancipation the negro population have in considerable numbers become owners of small allotments of land, upon which they have fixed their abode, abandoning the estates whereon they formerly resided. In some few instances those lands are well cultivated in provisions, and on some canes are grown, to be manufactured, in shares, on a neighbouring estate, and many of the proprietors possess stock, such as cows, horses, goats, and poultry; but, as a general rule, I fear the acquisition of property does not increase their industry.

11. The negro is naturally indolent, and little is required to provide for his wants, which are few and circumscribed. He works occasionally upon some neighbouring sugar estate for a few days, to obtain a trifling sum, wherewith to purchase the few necessaries of life not to be found in his provision grounds, and then returns home to pass his time in comparative idleness, until necessity again urges him to resume his hoe and cutlass.

12. There are also many negroes residing in the small villages on the coast whose chief occupation is fishing, and fish being abundant in these seas they obtain a plentiful supply with little personal exertion.

ST. LUCIA.

13. There is also a large quantity of Crown land in Saint Lucia, and many abandoned estates, belonging to vacant successions, of which it is impossible to ascertain the extent. The island has a superficies of 150,000 acres, of which little more than 5,000 are cultivated. Great facilities are thus afforded for trespassing and squatting, evils which have of late greatly increased by the resort of the labourers to the woods to cut logwood and firewood, and to burn charcoal, and the impossibility of checking the practice, owing to the mountainous nature of the country, and the uncertainty of the true bounds and limits of the abandoned and waste lands.

14. Annexed is a return, (Appendix D.) of the number of small rural properties the deeds of sale of which have been registered.

This return has been compiled with great care by the Registrar of Deeds and Mortgages; but it is probable that there are still many small properties not recorded, as the class of persons acquiring small holdings are not very prudent or provident in this respect.

15. The withdrawal of the labourers from the sugar estates, and the irregularity with which they bestow any portion of their labour on cane cultivation, have occasioned much loss and embarrassment to the planters, for where labour is not certain and regular the operations of the planter are often frustrated, through the unexpected absence of the labourers upon whose assistance he had calculated.

16. Indeed it is estimated that were the supply of labour sufficient and uninterrupted an estate's crop could be doubled with about only one-fourth additional cost.

17. Five estates have been abandoned of late, owing to debt and want of means to carry on the cultivation; and there are fourteen sugar estates the registered proprietors of which are not resident in the colony. Messrs. Cavan, Brothers, & Co., and Mr. William Muter, now in England, are owners of eleven of those properties, so that the real number of absentee proprietors may be said to be only four.

18. Towards the end of the year instructions were received from the West India Relief Commissioners in London, directing the local Board of Commissioners in Aid to take immediate steps for effecting the absolute sale of three of the best and largest sugar estates in the island, to repay the imperial loans granted under the Statute 2d & 3d William IV. cap. 125., entituled "An Act "for enabling His Majesty to direct the issue of Exchequer Bills to a limited "amount for the purposes and in the manner therein mentioned, and for "giving relief to Trinidad, British Guiana, and Saint Lucia."

19. The total amount of loans granted to Saint Lucia under the Imperial Act was 18,800*l.* sterling, of which 4,814*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* has been repaid, leaving 13,920*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* of principal outstanding, besides interest due for periods varying from three to fourteen years.

20. This sum was accorded in 1833 to nineteen estates, twelve of which have since passed into other hands, eight by judicial or forced sale, and four by private sale or transfer.

21. The Commissioners in Aid have taken steps to bring the three properties designated to sale; and this being the first instance in which summary proceedings have been resorted to for the recovery of the loans, much interest, and no little anxiety, has been created on the part of those proprietors whose estates still remain burdened with the Government mortgage.

22. The sanitary condition of the island has been most satisfactory; no epidemic disease has prevailed, and the excess of births over deaths appears to have been 434, or 814 against 380.

23. The troops stationed at Morne Fortune have been particularly healthy, there having occured only seven deaths out of a number averaging 200 in garrison during the year.

24. The annual report of the inspector of Prisons, and the report on the Government House, as also copy of the prison regulations, are annexed to this report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. V. DRYSDALE,
Administering the Government.

ABSTRACT RETURN from Blue Book, 1851-1852-1853-1854-1855.

Revenue.

Year.	Custom Duties. Import.	Custom Duties. Export.	Custom Duties. Tonnage.	Assessed and other Taxes, and Miscellaneous Revenue.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1851	5,147 17 6½	1,760 9 9½	659 7 2	6,083 11 6½	13,651 6 0⅓	—	—
1852	5,752 17 6½	1,846 12 10	664 9 8½	4,696 5 5¼	12,960 5 6¼	—	691 0 6¼
1853	5,252 3 8	912 15 11	666 14 7	5,690 2 2	12,521 16 4	—	438 9 2¼
1854	6,482 3 8	—	744 2 10	6,872 5 9⅓	14,087 4 6	1,565 8 2	—
1855	4,589 9 8	—	647 2 7	6,908 14 7⅓	12,145 6 10½	—	1,941 17 7½

A sum of 11*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* was erroneously included under this head in the abstract for the Blue Book of 1854, the net revenue of which year was 14,087*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*, showing a decrease in 1855 of 1,941*l.* 17*s.* 7½*d.*, which has principally arisen from a falling off in the Customs and rum duty.

Expenditure, Colonial.

Year.	Civil Government.	Judicial.	Ecclesiastical.	Poor.	Police.	Prisons.	Other Expenditure.	Total.	Increase.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1851	3,661 13 6½	2,686 4 7½	1,244 16 3½	240 8 5½	850 10 0	496 3 8	1,952 15 7	11,132 12 2	—
1852	3,138 0 6	2,850 1 10	1,267 17 2½	335 6 5½	942 8 0	615 7 2¾	2,540 2 2¾	11,689 3 5½	556 11 3¼
1853	3,659 17 10½	2,685 17 1	1,378 4 6½	307 14 3	943 8 0	605 3 0½	2,889 10 1	12,449 14 10½	760 11 5
1854	3,641 0 6	3,116 2 4	1,396 4 11	436 18 6	987 4 0	782 1 5½	3,205 9 8	13,565 1 4½	1,115 6 6
1855	3,607 9 2	2,793 13 6	1,466 3 2	312 17 7	962 16 0	814 16 8	4,833 12 10	14,791 8 11	704 4 5

The increased expenditure has been chiefly occasioned by the expenses consequent on the invasion of epidemic cholera in the preceding year, amounting to more than 2,000*l.* sterling.

Expenditure, Local and Parochial.

Year.	Education.	Roads.	All other Parochial Charges.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1851	853 6 1½	—	838 1 5	1,691 7 6
1852	1,105 0 0	489 11 6	1,167 9 10	2,762 1 4
1853	1,070 18 9½	3,126 4 11½	1,281 5 8	5,478 9 5
1854	1,156 18 7	292 10 2	1,293 9 11	2,742 18 8
1855	870 12 3	550 15 7	1,132 11 10	2,553 17 8

The amount for educational purposes is exclusive of a sum of 500*l.* contributed by the Mico Charity. The sum expended on the roads is derived from a tax of 2*s.* 6*d.* upon houses. The miscellaneous expenditure consists of 1,124*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* incurred by the Corporation of Castries, and a sum of 8*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* for purposes of local improvement in the villages.

Expenditure, Great Britain.

Year.	Civil.	Military.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1851	1,816 18 9	13,317 16 5	15,134 15 2
1852	1,749 19 0	12,705 19 7	14,455 18 0
1853	1,775 4 4	13,033 16 2	14,809 0 6
1854	1,754 10 4	14,768 4 7	16,522 14 11
1855	1,477 0 0	13,712 0 7	15,189 0 7

The decrease in the civil expenditure is owing to the abolition of the salaried offices of Controller of the Imperial Custom and Navigation Laws, the duties of which offices have now devolved upon the Colonial Treasurer.

ST. LUCIA.

Population.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1851	11.763	12,527	24,290
1852	11,749	12,601	24,350
1853	12,034	12,973	25,007
1854	11,511	12,612	24,123
1855	11,931	13,299	25,230

The records of births and deaths are imperfectly kept; but the returns show a marked increase in the population, which had been considerably decreased by cholera.

Land.

Year.	Area in Square Miles.	Acreage under Cultivation.
1851	Unknown.	4,077
1842	,,	4,674
1853	,,	6,103½
1854	,,	4,628
1855	,,	5,306½

Nil.

Coins and Currency.

Year.	Specie in Circulation.	Notes in Circulation.
1851	Unknown.	Estimated at 5,208*l.*
1852	Unknown.	Estimated at 4,166*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*
1853	Estimated at 10,500*l.*	Estimated at 4,166*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*
1854	Estimated at 10,600*l.*	Estimated at 4,180*l.*
1855	Estimated at 10,600*l.*	Estimated at 5,208*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

Nil.

Churches.

Year.	Church of England.	Other Denominations.	Number of Sittings.	Average Attendance.	Per Cent. on Population.
1851	3	10	5,932	7,650	31·63/00
1852	3	10	5,982	8,000	33· 7/00
1853	3	10	6,575	8,455	33·81/00
1854	3	9	5,550	7,550	31·28/00
1855	3	9	6,892	7,835	31·50/00

The accommodation is not sufficient for the attendance at the Roman Catholic churches. The average attendance at the three Protestant churches does not exceed 250.

Schools.

Year.	Church of England.	Other Denominations.	Total Number of Scholars.	Per Cent. on Population.
1851	10	5	904	3·73/00
1852	11	9	1,117	4·61/00
1853	20	2	1,393	5·16/00
1854	18	4	1,243	5·14/00
1855	13	5	1,052	4·34/00

Properly speaking there are no schools of the Church of England; those enumerated in the first column are so placed to distinguish them from Roman Catholic schools placed in the second column. The general attendance, which had much fallen off owing to cholera in 1854, had commenced to revive towards the end of 1855.

Value in Sterling.

Year.	Imports. From Great Britain.	Imports. From British Colonies.	Imports. From Foreign Countries.	Imports. Total.	Exports. To Great Britain.	Exports. To British Colonies.	Exports. To Foreign Countries.	Exports. Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1851	22,179 3 7	29,612 4 9	17,089 17 7	68,881 5 11	45,699 6 6	8,005 18 11	1,180 0 0	54,815 5 5
1852	38,508 16 8	25,800 10 8	16,691 15 3	81,002 2 7	46,553 9 8	7,037 18 8	3,619 2 8	57,210 11 0
1853	26,001 2 8	27,350 5 9	19,298 17 11	72,650 6 4	46,438 9 8	7,930 14 7	2,635 8 7	57,004 12 10
1854	41,966 8 9	27,879 2 11	26,432 19 4	96,278 11 0	46,004 16 5	6,668 1 0	3,163 11 3	55,836 8 8
1855	12,831 0 9	22,188 14 7	20,494 9 2	55,514 4 6	47,508 12 10	2,689 19 6	4,781 13 4	54,980 5 8

There has been a decrease on Imports of 40,764*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*, and a decrease of 856*l.* 3*s.* on Exports.

Shipping.

Year.	Inwards. From Great Britain.	Inwards. From British Colonies.	Inwards. From Foreign Countries.	Inwards. Total.	Outwards. To Great Britain.	Outwards. To British Colonies.	Outwards. To Foreign Countries.	Outwards. Total.
1851	2,810	5,364	1,851	10,025	3,548	4,287	2,915	9,850
1852	3,178	4,870	3,109	11,157	3,930	4,830	2,471	11,231
1853	2,226	4,333	3,190	9,749	3,799	4,125	2,352	10,276
1854	3,525	5,743	3,205	12,471	3,434	2,468	5,460	11,362
1855	1,392	3,595	2,579	7,566	3,883	5,308	4,594	13,785

Nil.

Return of Criminal and other Prisoners.

Year.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.	Debtors.
1851	239	69	3	5	316	—	—	—
1852	221	39	3	2	265	—	51	—
1853	149	55	2	—	206	—	59	—
1854	178	21	2	—	201	—	5	—
1855	221	36	2	—	259	53	—	3

Committed for safe custody 78. Total number convicted 181. The increase consists in the greater number of commitments for safe custody, and the convictions for misdemeanours.

Government Office, Saint Lucia.

J. V. Drysdale,
Colonial Secretary.

ST. LUCIA.

A.

TABLE of certain ARTICLES of IMPORTATION during the Years 1851–52–53–54 and 1855.

Articles.	Weight or Measure.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.
Bread	Barrels	432	231	128	357	105
Butter	Cwts.	170 0 10	148 2 12	193 0 11	194 1 6	217 0 2
Cheese	Cwts.	52 2 20	51 1 9	23 3 9	49 0 22	46 1 13
Corn and Grain	Bushels	3,068	1,839	2,577	2,475	1,342
Corn Meal	Barrels	500	77	62	209	117
Fish, dry	Quintals	9,795	10,114	9,678	8,443	7,810
Fish, pickled	Barrels	313	769	299	481	146
Fish, smoked	Boxes	85	75	289	414	359
Flour, Wheat	Barrels	5,894	4,548	3,983	5,437	3,261
Lard	Cwts.	45 1 0	50 2 25	170 2 1	248 3 24	264 1 0
Meat, salted	„	1,540 3 10	786 3 18	579 0 2	1,599 0 20	675 0 0
Oil, Olive	Gallons	4,765	4,318	3,952	4,210	4,599
Rice	Cwts.	907 3 16	2,054 2 22	1,029 3 12	1,204 3 17	518 3 2
Salt	Barrels	806	463	1,140	1,053	839
Tobacco, manufactured	lbs.	5,532	6,590	6,656	10,210	4,193
Tobacco, unmanufactured	„	50,230	51,047	42,960	29,022	60,683
Vermicelli	„	2,494	2,676	3,914	2,983	2,819
Vinegar	Gallons	1,063	1,673	1,253	1,270	1,328
Wines	„	14,774	12,038	11,378	8,638	6,587
Live Stock	Head	381	450	551	690	333
British manufactured Goods	£	33,788 12 9	46,112 19 4	35,538 2 6	47,639 13 0	25,541 5 5
Value of Imports	£	68,881 5 11	81,001 2 7	72,650 6 4	96,278 11 0	55,514 4 6

(Signed) R. G. M'HUGH,
Her Majesty's Treasurer.

Treasury, Saint Lucia, May 2, 1856.

(True Copy.)
J. V. DRYSDALE, Colonial Secretary.

B.

STATEMENT of STAPLE EXPORTS from ST. LUCIA, from 1839 to 1855 inclusive.

Date.	Sugar.	Coffee.	Cocoa.	Molasses.	Rum.	Firewood.	Logwood.	Farine Manioc.
Year	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	Gallons	Gallons	Cords	Tons	Barrels
1839	3,487,000	448,650	91,280	122,800	1,200	55	195	—
1840	3,625,500	411,000	105,450	67,000	13,200	115	197	—
1841	4,782,400	82,704	68,656	101,300	13,300	175	130	—
1842	6,461,000	59,100	55,650	127,200	9,200	158	131	—
1843	7,283,360	48,379	80,961	136,310	236	179	56	—
1844	6,983,300	25,312	44,800	111,800	11,200	168	51	—
1845	7,041,100	67,078	130,592	99,700	17,000	287	69	—
1846	5,224,800	65,856	123,456	197,420	3,559	351	82	—
1847	10,512,422	48,363	105,476	166,021	43,468	167	167	—
1848	6,533,968	19,722	107,512	120,822	13,921	399	180	—
1849	7,874,832	31,471	104,912	104,042	5,391	467	97	—
1850	6,530,608	11,722	89,635	105,774	840	452	148	—
1851	7,560,224	25,979	122,875	122,158	958	300	156	—
1852	7,113,904	30,520	134,721	151,130	3,400	474	93	1,437
1853	6,883,072	16,068	186,782	166,850	2,890	310	365	463
1854	6,635,045	145	161,216	106,200	12,500	325	1,154	23½
1855	6,356,821	745	137,931	102,835	38,848	200	1,294	—
	110,889,356	1,392,814	1,850,905	2,109,362	191,111	4,582	4,565	1,923½

(Signed) R. G. M'HUGH,
Her Majesty's Treasurer.

Treasury, Saint Lucia, May 2, 1856.

(True Copy.)
J. V. DRYSDALE, Colonial Secretary.

(C.)

TABLE showing the AVERAGE EXPORTS of 16 Years preceding 1855.

Produce.	Average Exports of 16 Years, viz. 1839 to 1855.	Export of 1855.	Increase over Average.	Decrease under Average.
Sugar - - - Lbs.	6,520,783	6,356,821	—	163,962
Coffee - - - - „	87,004	745	—	86,257
Cocoa - - - - - „	100,811	137,931	37,120	—
Molasses - - - - Galls.	125,408	102,835	—	22,573
Rum - - - - „	9,516	38,848	29,332	—
Firewood - - - Cords	274	200	—	74
Logwood - - - Tons	210	1,294	1,084	—

J. V. DRYSDALE,
Colonial Secretary.

No. 1.

RETURN of SUGAR ESTATES in Cultivation in 1855.

Number of Sugar Estates in Cultivation.	Average Number of Labourers for each Estate.	Number of Acres cultivated in Canes.	Quantity of Sugar made.	Quantity of Rum distilled.	Quantity of Molasses obtained.	Proportion of Sugar to each Labourer employed.
			lbs.	gall.	gall.	lbs.
85	37	3,253	6,683,867	74,123	176,151	2,086

This table is compiled from returns prepared by the stipendiary magistrates from information furnished by the planters, and it will be observed that the quantity of sugar made is more than that given by the export return of the customs.

J. V. DRYSDALE,
Colonial Secretary.

No. 2.

RETURN showing the POPULATION employed in AGRICULTURE, the Rate of Wages for Labour, the Average Price of Sugar, and the Quantity of Sugar exported during the Years 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, and 1855.

Year.	Population employed occasionally in Agriculture.	Average Rate of daily Wages.	Mean Rate of Wages.	Quantity of Sugar exported.	Average Price of 1 Cwt. Sugar.	Proportion which daily Wages bear to net Price of Sugar.
1851	3,807	8*d.* to 12*d.*	10*d.*	7,560,224	22*s.* 3*d.* or 267*d.*	26
1852	3,942	$9\frac{1}{2}$*d.* to 14*d.*	$11\frac{1}{4}$*d.*	7,113,901	22*s.* 3*d.* or 267*d.*	23
1853	3,718	8*d.* to 12*d.*	10*d.*	6,883,072	24*s.* 6*d.* or 294*d.*	29
1854	3,180	$9\frac{3}{4}$*d.* to $13\frac{1}{2}$*d.*	$11\frac{1}{4}$*d.*	6,635,045	24*s.* 1*d.* or 289*d.*	26
1855	3,201	10*d.* to 14*d.*	11*d.*	6,356,821	30*s.* 5*d.* or 365*d.*	$33\frac{1}{2}$

This return gives the greatest number of labourers employed at any one time, but the average number employed throughout the year cannot be computed at more than 2,400. The exports are taken from the customs returns, which give much less sugar than the quantity actually made.

J. V. DRYSDALE,
Colonial Secretary.

ST. LUCIA.

No. 3.

RETURN showing the COST of One Cwt. of SUGAR, free on board at the Port of Shipping, and the Freight and Charges attending its Sale.

No.	Names of Estates.	Cost of Cultivation with Proportion of incidental Charges.	Cost of Manufacture including Packages and Carriage.	Export Duty.	Cost of One Cwt. Sugar in the Colony.	Average Freight to England.	Commission, Interest, and Charges on Sale.	Total Cost of One Cwt. Sugar when sold.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1	Anse Mamin	0 7 9	0 2 10½	0 0 4½	0 11 0	0 3 6	0 16 0	1 10 6
2	Réunion, Choiseul	0 6 1	0 2 8	0 0 4½	0 9 1½	0 3 6	0 16 0	1 8 7¼
3	Balembouche	0 8 1½	0 2 6	0 0 4½	0 11 0	0 3 6	0 16 0	1 10 6
4	Tourny Estate	0 9 8	0 8 8	0 0 4½	0 18 8½	0 3 6	0 16 0	1 18 3½
5	Belle Plaine Estate	0 7 7	0 6 10	0 0 4½	0 14 9½	0 3 6	0 16 0	1 14 3½
6	Réunion Laborie	0 5 8	0 3 6	0 0 4½	0 9 6	0 3 6	0 16 0	1 9 0
7	Pointe Estate	0 7 9	0 2 10½	0 0 4½	0 11 0	0 3 6	0 16 2½	1 10 8¼
8	Cap Estate	0 7 9	0 2 10½	0 0 4½	0 11 0	0 3 6	0 16 0	1 10 6
9	Union Vale Estate	0 10 8	0 2 7¼	0 0 4½	0 13 7¾	0 3 6	0 17 6	1 14 7¾
10	Retraite Estate	0 5 3	0 7 6	0 0 4½	0 13 1	0 3 6	0 18 0	1 14 7½
11	Pointe Sable Estate	0 6 0	0 7 0¾	0 0 4½	0 13 5¼	0 3 6	0 18 0	1 14 11¼
12	St. Urbam Estate	0 6 4	0 7 0	0 0 4½	0 13 8½	0 3 6	0 17 10	1 15 0½
	Average Costs				0 12 6			1 12 7

N.B.—6 Water Mills, viz. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 9 and 10. 4 Steam Engines, viz. Nos. 7, 8, 11 and 12. 1 Windmill, viz. No. 4. 1 Cattle Mill, viz. No. 5.

J. V. DRYSDALE,
Colonial Secretary.

COST of PRODUCTION of One Cwt. of SUGAR on the UNION VALE ESTATE, in the Parish of Soufriere, Island of St. Lucia, the Total Amount of the Crop being 1,950 Cwt. net.

	£	s.	d.
For cultivation, including stock-keepers, grass-cutters, groom, and all labour employed, making manure and roads, and carting sugar	0	5	3½
For manufacturing one Cwt.	0	1	5
For proportion of package	0	1	0
For proportion of salary of manager and overseers	0	2	0
For proportion of cost of lumber, timber, and building lime, nails, paint, oil, tallow, cordage, tar, carpenters and mason work, repairing buildings, carts, &c.	0	1	9
For proportion of wear and tear of live stock working on the estate, being calculated at 10 per °/₀ per annum on the value thereof	0	0	9
For proportion of wear and tear of sugar mill, coppers, and carts, calculated at 7½ per °/₀ on value	0	0	1
For export duty per Cwt.	0	0	4½
For proportion of loss on exchange being about 1¼ per °/₀	0	0	1¾
For proportion of transport by water to the ship	0	0	1¾
For proportion of interest on annual outlay at 5 °/°	0	0	8¼
Total cost of one Cwt. of sugar put on board ship	0	13	7¾
Duty, freight, and all other charges attending the sale in the British market about 21*s.*	1	1	0
Total	1	14	7¾

Thus if the sugar of the above mentioned estate sells for 35 shillings per Cwt., it leaves 4¼*d.* as interest on capital; if lower (as has frequently been the case during several years past) it leaves a loss.

(Signed) JOHN GOODMAN,
Proprietor.

COST of PRODUCTION of One Cwt. SUGAR on the ANSE MAMIN ESTATE, in the Parish of Soufriere, Island of St. Lucia.

	£	s.	d.
For cultivation, including salaries of managers, overseers, &c., and trifling repairs	0	7	9
For manufacturing, including cutting and carrying canes and the proportion of the cask	0	2	6
For freight from Soufriere to Castries	0	0	4½
For colonial export duty	0	0	4½
	0	11	0
For freight from St. Lucia to London	0	3	6
For duty and all other charges in England	0	16	0
Total	1	10	6

(Signed) P. CAVALIER.

(True Copies.)
J. V. DRYSDALE,
Colonial Secretary.

D.

A RETURN of the NUMBER of SMALL RURAL PROPERTIES, the Deeds of Sale of which have been recorded in the Mortgage Office, St. Lucia, from the 3d July 1829 to the 1st May 1856.

Under One Acre.	One and under Five.	Five and under Ten.	Over Ten.
12	259	213	249

Certified correct this 9th Day of May 1856.
(Signed) HENRY H. BREEN,
Registrar of Deeds and Mortgages.

(True Copy.)
J. V. DRYSDALE,
Colonial Secretary.

REPORT of the Pavilion Committee on the Pavilion and Furniture contained therein, for the Blue Book for the Year 1855.

We have little to add to our Report for the year 1854; during the past year (1855) the sum of 17*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* was expended in making small necessary repairs, and is the smallest sum expended during a period of twelve months upon that building for many years past.
The inventory of furniture is the same, and it is in fair state of repair.

Castries, Saint Lucia,
April 12, 1856.

(Signed) JAMES MACFARLANE, M.C.
J. P. LEUGER, M.C.
R. G. M'HUGH, H.M. Treasurer
in charge of Works and Buildings.

ST. LUCIA.

INVENTORY of the Furniture, the Property of the Colony, in the Pavilion.

Drawing Room.

Two sofas.
Four card tables.
Two sofa tables.
Seventeen drawing-room chairs.
One bronze three-light chandelier.

Dining Room.

One large sideboard.
Two small ditto.
One telescope table and leaves.
One side table.
Twenty-three dining-room chairs.
One celaret.

Office and Gallery.

One ottoman.
Two small tables.
Two easy chairs.
One writing table.
Two office tables.
Eleven chairs.
One small press.
One large armour.

First Bedroom.

One bedstead and mattress and netting.
One chest of drawers.
One armour.

Second Bedroom.

One bedstead, mattress, and netting.
One chest of drawers.
One dressing table.
One washhand stand.
Ewer, basin, and chamber.
One looking glass.

Third Bedroom.

One bedstead, mattress, and netting.
One dressing table.
One washhand stand.
Ewer, basin, and chamber.
One commode.
One looking glass.

Fourth Bedroom.

One bedstead, mattress, and netting.
One chest of drawers.
One washhand stand.
Ewer, basin, and chamber.
One looking glass.
One dressing table.
One common table.
Two bidets.

Miscellanea.

One chest of drawers.
One washhand stand.
One ewer, basin, and chamber.
One dressing table.
One looking glass.
One commode.

Sundries.

One eight-day clock.
Sixteen common chairs (damaged).
Twenty barrel shades.
Eight side shades.
Three iron bedsteads.
Three deal tables.
One small mattress.
Five screens.

(Signed) R. G. M'HUGH,
Her Majesty's Treasurer at
St. Lucia, in charge of Works and Buildings.

Government Office,
April 12, 1856.

(True Copies.)
J. V. DRYSDALE, Colonial Secretary.

SIR, Castries, St. Lucia, February 21, 1856.

1. I HAVE the honour to make the following report on the Royal Gaol for the year 1855.

2. The Royal Gaol of Castries is the only prison in the island. It is a substantially-built, commodious, and well-ventilated edifice in masonry, measuring 75 feet in length by 36 feet in width, with an open gallery along the front of nine feet in width. The prison is surrounded on three sides by high walls, and on the fourth by a wall four feet high, surmounted by a strong iron railing, but which, however, affords little opposition to the escape of prisoners of desperate character who are bent on breaking out. There are four separate yards within the walls for exercise, &c. The outbuildings consist of an hospital, a house and kitchen for the gaoler, a stove room attached to the kitchen, a privy, through which water is continually running, and a building containing two large airy cells, built for the confinement of dangerous lunatics, but now used for that of juvenile offenders, lunatics being no longer admitted into the prison. In the front or main yard there is a large open reservoir, into and out of which there is always flowing a copious supply of excellent water. The gaol is at present in good repair, with the exception of the gratings of the windows, which require to be renewed, being almost entirely eaten through with rust, many of the bars are corroded away to the size of a quarter of an inch at the bottoms where they enter the sills, and would no more prevent the generality of European criminals from effecting their escape, than if they were made of wood of the same size. I must again call attention to my recommendation, that the gallery in front of the prison be jalousied in, as the afternoon sun strikes with such intense heat as to render parties

confined there very uncomfortable, and in consequence of which the prisoners often strip themselves nearly naked in order to be cooler. A small shed is about being built in the main yard where the prisoners may have their food cooked; this is a most desirable object, as the prisoners now have no place whatever where they can light a fire during rain.

3. The gaol is capable of containing 130 prisoners with complete separation of the sexes: 259 persons were confined during the year, 223 males and 36 females.

4. There are nine wards on the upper floor of the gaol, measuring 16 feet by 13 feet; of these, two are day rooms, two are reserved for the confinement of debtors, and one is occupied by the turnkey. The attic is divided into three large rooms, in which the female prisoners are kept. There are ten cells on the ground floor, which are commodious, clean, and well ventilated.

5. Prisoners under sentence receive two suits of clothes per annum, which I consider too small an allowance, because when working outside they are very liable to get wet, and be brought back to prison and locked up so, as they very often have not a second suit to put on. No bedding is supplied. The prisoners in the cells on the ground floor (which is paved with bricks, and which I consider unhealthy, as the bricks are hardly ever free from humidity, taking a long time to dry after being scoured, which they are once a week) have raised trestles on which they sleep; those in the upper wards, generally parties for trial, sleep on the floor.

6. The diet consists of half-a-pound of salt fish and half a pot of farine manioc, or its equivalent of bread. Debtors receive an alimentary allowance from the incarcerating creditor; and soldiers, imprisoned under sentence of courts-martial, pay sixpence per diem for their rations.

7. The hours of labour of the penal gang, are from six to nine a.m., and from ten a.m. to five p.m. The hours within the gaol walls are from six to ten a.m., and from two to six p.m. The hours allotted for exercise are, for male prisoners, from ten to twelve, and for females, from twelve to two p.m. The work of the prisoners under sentence of hard labour, and who work outside the gaol, is not fixed; at one time they are employed in repairing portions of the public roads near Castries, at another in digging gravel for filling up the swampy parts of the town, and at others in clearing away and keeping in order the lands of Government House, &c. Those who work within the walls are employed in breaking stone. Tradesmen, such as carpenters, masons and tailors, are generally employed at their respective crafts during the same hours as the other prisoners. The female prisoners are employed in cleaning the prison, and asylum for the poor, and in making clothes for the other convicts. I am glad to be able to report, that the penal gang are about to be employed on some land near the gaol, for the purpose of growing provisions for the use of the prisoners; and I feel convinced, that were the best portion of the penal labour bestowed in this way, provisions enough might be raised, not only for the subsistence of the whole of the prisoners, but sufficient to produce a sum more than adequate for procuring their salt fish and paying for their clothes, &c.

7. Prisoners under criminal sentence are not allowed to receive parcels or letters until they have been inspected by the keeper, and in case of any improper communication being attempted, the keeper is empowered to withhold such parcel or letter until he receives the instructions of the provost marshal general, who may dispose of them as he deems advisable; they can receive no visits from their friends or relations, until after the expiration of three months from their committal, and then only in every succeeding three months, except in cases of sickness and under special circumstances. No extra food is allowed without a written order to that effect by the surgeon or provost marshal.

8. There is no regular chaplain appointed to the prison! There is no chapel in the gaol, nor any suitable apartment for the performance of divine service! The prisoners, when any clergyman does visit the gaol, assemble under the superintendence of the prison officers in one of the day rooms, when the best separation that the size of the apartment will permit is maintained among them. I regret, however, to have to report that the Protestant minister visited the prison but four times during the year, viz., on the 28th March, 28th August, 5th September, and 25th November, and that none of the Roman Catholic clergy, or any other religious teacher, did so even once during the whole of 1855; whereas the attendance was good in previous years.

9. The surgeon visits the gaol daily, and also attends whenever called by the keeper; he keeps a journal in which is inserted the name of each sick prisoner, with the nature of the disease, the treatment or medicines prescribed, and the result of the case. An hospital is attached to the prison, with a separate yard for air and exercise. Sixty-four cases are reported as having been taken into hospital during the year, only one of which from cholera was fatal. The most prevalent diseases were fever, of which there were 16 cases, ulcer 12 cases, cholica 6 cases, and ophthalmia 5 cases.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. H. Jennings,
Special Justice, 2d District, and
Inspector of Prisons.

(True Copy.)
J. V. Drysdale, Colonial Secretary.

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No. 20.

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No. 20.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HAMILTON to the Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 21.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua, May 10, 1856.

(Received June 5, 1856.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit in duplicate the "Blue Book" of this island for the year 1855, and to offer some remarks on the points which this annual compilation of statistics presents more prominently for notice.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The return of revenue and expenditure exhibits a decrease of revenue amounting to 877*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, and an increase of expenditure to the extent of 3,542*l.* 12*s.* $8\frac{3}{4}d.$

3. The diminution of revenue is caused by a deficiency on import and tonnage duties of 1,367*l.* 11*s.* $2\frac{1}{4}d.$, which reduction is mitigated, on the total amount shown, by increased lodgments from the savings' bank, (488*l.* 7*s.* $9\frac{3}{4}d.$), and an excess of 241*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* on the collections from public fines. These are the only heads of receipt which exhibit any features worthy of notice. The fluctuations in the other items are only such as are to be found on any comparison of years.

4. The diminution in the sum raised by import duties does not indicate any retrogression in the trade of the colony, but is rather attributable to the scarcity and high prices of flour and other provisions of a like nature which have prevailed in the United States, from whence our chief supplies of these articles are obtained. The quantities imported have in consequence not been so great as in the preceding year although yielding what may still be considered as an average return under the Tariff Act.

5. The expenditure for the year has been heightened principally by additional disbursements on account—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Of Roads to the extent of - - -	1,345	4	1
Of Board of Health - - -	1,354	2	$6\frac{1}{2}$
Of Common Gaol - - -	501	18	$8\frac{1}{4}$
Of Poor House - - - -	351	0	0
	3,552	5	$3\frac{3}{4}$

Very large outlay on the repairs of highways has been necessary during the past year, in consequence of the Road Act having expired in 1854, and some time having elapsed before that law was revived, during which period the roads of course suffered greatly from neglect, and had fallen into such a state as to require heavy disbursements to place them in their former condition. The same remark applies to the streets of St. John, of which the care was transferred to the board of health by the Health Act; and no less a portion than 1,160*l.* of the whole amount disbursed by the board was expended on the reconstruction and repair of streets.

6. There is an apparent increase in the expense of the judicial establishment as shown on the face of the comparative statement for the last two years; but this only arises from the circumstance that salary for five quarters had been paid to the chief justice within the twelve months of 1855, as against three quarters in the preceding year. The other variations in amount are only usual.

Public Debt.

7. The liabilities of the colony have been upon the whole reduced. The sum now due from the island, or rather for which the public are responsible to Her Majesty's Government, is 60,000*l.*, of which 21,584*l.* is the portion

remaining unliquidated on the score of the amount expended for public works, and that has to be met from the general revenues of the island. The local loan has been swollen by the amount of 700*l.* borrowed on debentures under the guarantee of resolutions of the legislature, for the purpose of meeting temporary pressure on the resources of the colony.

Public Works.

8. The repairs and reconstruction of roads and streets were the only works of a public nature in progress during the past year. These, however, as has been observed, under the head of revenue and expenditure, have entailed heavy drafts upon the Treasury; but it may be hoped that for the ensuing year the provision for this branch of the public service need not be very extensive.

Legislation.

9. Very few laws have been passed by the legislature during the past year, and those have been measures of common-place character, renewing and amending previously existing enactments. Subjects of importance, however, to the future progress and well-being of the community, have been engaging the attention of the Council and Assembly, and I trust we shall soon experience the benefit of their deliberations in several measures of salutary character, to which I shall more particularly advert in my remarks on the general state of the colony.

Population.

10. The results exhibited by the returns of baptisms, marriages, and burials are very satisfactory, showing an increase in the number of baptisms of 89, in marriages of 41, and a decrease in burials of 237, or more than 20 per cent. The community not having suffered in either year from any epidemic visitation, it seems difficult to account for so favourable a circumstance by any special reason. It would be, perhaps, attributing an undue amount of importance to the results of the efforts of the Board of Health, established under the Health Act of 1854, to ascribe it altogether to their labours; but I am disposed to entertain the opinion that the greater attention to sanitary considerations, to cleanliness, and to carefulness for the sick, on the part of their relations, which the Board have striven to inculcate, have produced no inconsiderable fruit, which is partially displayed in the return now under review.

11. The small proportion of the labouring population (about 8,000 in 31,000) who are provided by estates or furnish themselves with regular medical attendance, which was alluded to by my predecessor in his report for the year 1854, has attracted much remark, and caused corresponding activity of inquiry into the best means of combating so undesirable a state of affairs. There can be little doubt that, humanly speaking, a very large and unnecessary loss of life is the result of neglect.

12 Previously to the emancipation of the slaves in 1834, not only was there stringent provision made by local enactments for medical care of the people, but every proprietor had a direct pecuniary interest in the preservation of their lives. Afterwards, it was endeavoured to retain as far as possible, under the change of system, all that was salutary in this respect from the destruction of the previous social relations between master and servant, and the laws regulating contracts of service provided that every servant employed under a "general hiring" should be furnished with proper medicine and medical attendance during his or her illness. For some while these regulations had the effect desired; but in process of time the greater number of labourers withdrew themselves from the plantations, and, with the view of enjoying, as they imagined, more fully the advantages of freedom, settled themselves in the "free villages," as they were termed. Unfortunately, disinclination to incur expense has left the bulk of the villagers unprovided with medical aid; and other causes, such as the unhealthiness of the sites of these villages, which for the most part were on land which had been sold because from its marshy or barren nature it was of little value for agricultural purposes, have, there can be little doubt, increased the rates of mortality.

13. The Board of Health have given their attention to this subject, and it is, as I have already observed, not unreasonable to attribute some portion of the

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diminution in the number of burials to exertions to procure observance of their recommendations.

Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.

14. Nothing under the heads of this form demands especial remark; except, perhaps, that it is worthy of notice that the incidental aid to the fixed revenue derived from lodgments of amounts deposited in the savings' bank has increased in the last year by the sum of 734*l.*, a large per-centage of the whole amount, and that this accession on the total is in the face of a diminution of the sums standing in the books of the institution to the credit of friendly or benefit societies. A just inference will be in favour of the useful working of the establishment, and testify to the increasing disposition on the part of the middle and lower classes to avail themselves of the facilities afforded them for husbanding the small amounts which they may have been enabled to lay aside, and show an increasing appreciation of the benefit accruing from habits of frugality.

Education.

15. On the returns of schools obtained from the different religious denominations appears an increase in the number of day scholars, as against the aggregate in the last report, of 572 in a total of 3,561, a fair progression of more than one seventh in a year. The following summary for 1855 shows the number of schools maintained by the various establishments, and the relative number of pupils both for day and Sunday schools :—

Denomination.	Day Schools.			Sunday Schools.			
	Schools.	Male Scholars.	Female Scholars.	Schools.	Male Scholars.	Female Scholars.	
Church of England -	17	553	448	4	204	191	Total Day Scholars, 3,561.
Moravian - -	15	827	744	9	782	1,054	
Wesleyan - -	6	381	275	10	767	901	
Presbyterian - -	3	56	37	—	—	—	Total Sunday Scholars, 3,899.
Mico Institution -	2	166	74	—	—	—	
	43	1,983	1,578	23	1,753	2,146	

16. I could have wished to record in the present report that the legislature had at last made contribution from the public funds for this common cause of education. As has been remarked by my predecessor, "financial considerations, "not unallied with sectarian jealousies, have hitherto stood in the way of such "provision." Still it is gratifying to know that there have been powerful movements made recently in the right direction. The subject has been much discussed of late in the local newspapers; and some of the most influential members of the community have been devoting careful investigation to the development of the means best adapted to the state of society to which they are to be applied for ensuring the desired object.

17. At a late meeting of the legislature leave was obtained to bring in a Bill for establishing certain educational provisions; and I have sanguine expectation that before the expiration of the first twelve months of my administration I shall have the satisfaction of inaugurating an approved system of legislative aid to sound religious and industrial education.

Imports and Exports.

18. The increase apparently exhibited by this form requires some explanation, as the figures do not display the true proportion of the value of the imports and exports, as compared with those of the preceding year. Up to the period of the abolition of the Imperial customs establishment in this island, at the end of 1854, this return had been obtained from that department, and was made up from mere nominal assigned valuations, which in many instances were far wide of the true cost of the articles. So long as the same system was pursued, the proportion of increase or decrease was perhaps upon the whole fairly appreciated, although the real value of the mercantile transactions of the colony was not accurately obtained.

19. Since the transfer of duties performed by the Imperial customs to the local revenue department it has been endeavoured to arrive at least at an approximation to the true values. The returns for this year have been prepared from declared values and averages of known market rates, and are believed to be more nearly correct than those of previous years.

20. The quantities of produce exported have been quite equal to any for the last ten years, giving an aggregate of more than 12,000 tons of sugar and 1,800 puncheons of rum, with a fair proportion of molasses, these staples being in fact the only articles of export worthy of mention.

QUANTITIES of PRODUCE shipped, 1855.

Sugar.

Hogsheads.	Tierces.	Barrels.	Bags.	Where to.
14,002	1,446½	6,414	28	To Great Britain.
—	—	396	—	To other West Indies.
110	—	561	—	To North America.
136	26	253	—	To United States.
—	—	79	7	To Foreign States.
14,248	1,472½	7,703	28	Total equal to 16,236 hogsheads or 12,197 tons.

Molasses.

Puncheons.	Other Casks.	Where to.
5,753	46	To Great Britain.
129	—	To other West Indies.
494	—	To North America.
72	—	To United States.
1	—	To other Foreign States.
6,449	46	Total.

Rum.

Puncheons.	Hogsheads.	Quarter Casks.	Pipes.	Butts.	Where to.
1,693	126	63	2	3	To Great Britain.
18	3	—	—	—	To West Indies.
61	10	—	—	—	To North America.
10	—	—	—	—	To United States.
1,782	139	63	2	3	

21. The shipping returns forwarded in Sir William Molesworth's despatch, circular, of 22d September 1855, and now embraced in the Blue Book for the first time, are not as complete as it is hoped they will be for the future. The data for their effective preparation have not hitherto been collected with that object; and in the case of the forms 3 and 4, arranging vessels under nationalities, it has been found impossible to furnish the required information.

Agriculture.

22. From the foregoing remarks it will be observed that there is no diminution of agricultural activity. Upon the whole, the production of the last crop has been superior to that of any year since the coming into operation of the Sugar Duties Act of 1846. Attention is paid to the improvements of modern husbandry. Artificial manures, and the other recent appliances of science, are made use of to a great extent; and I learn that there is scarcely an invention for accelerating the manufacture of produce, or increasing the productiveness of the crude material, which has not been tried in this island. It has been found, however, I am informed, that in most cases the outlay necessary for

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processes of delicate manufacture is not repaid. The facilities which now exist in the mother country for refining, and the cheapness with which, on a large scale, such operations can be conducted, preclude rivalry on the part of the sugar producing countries in that branch of industry; and it is ascertained that the best of the lower qualities of sugar, which are in demand in England for refining purposes, are the most remunerative to the cane grower. In a word, it is believed that, within certain limits, the object to be striven for by the planter is quantity rather than quality of a higher grade.

Gaols and Prisoners.

23. There is little difference observable in the number of prisoners in confinement at Michaelmas, but an increase of nearly 30 per cent. in the greatest total at any one period of the year, a large proportion caused by a great accession to the amount of summary convictions for minor offences, which has latterly attracted much attention. By some it is considered conclusive evidence of the moral retrogression of the mass of the people, and consequent increase of crime; while by others it is supposed rather to arise from an over-zealous and uncompromising administration by the magistrates, especially in some districts, of the jurisdiction with which they are intrusted. Probably the truth may contain some elements of both explanations. A presumed increase of lawlessness in the people may have caused the justices to exercise less leniency in dealing with offences coming under their cognizance, and so one reason assigned has acted on the other to produce the result of which the origin is sought.

Police.

24. The police force, though in numbers too few to deal with any unexpected emergency, has been brought by the superintendent into a state of discipline and efficiency most creditable to all parties. In the absence of regular troops, and considering the disadvantages incidental to a climate like this, which must always attend any measure of voluntary enrolment, the police establishment should be increased. I have not failed to bring the subject under the consideration of the legislature; but the state of the public finances has been the obstacle to carrying out this and other beneficial public measures.

General State.

25. On reviewing the whole circumstances of the colony for the last year, as shown in the statistics which are before me, and bringing to their elucidation the information I have otherwise been able to collect since my assumption of the government, I believe myself to be justified in reporting decided progress towards the extrication of the community from the difficulties with which it has been beset, in the state of transition through which it has been struggling for some time past.

26. The despondency which has prevailed among the landed interests, and those sections of the community whose fortunes may be said to rest more immediately on the prosperity of the agriculturist, has hitherto prevented the subject of taxation from being adjusted in such a mode as to render the revenue sufficiently buoyant to bear the charges which are inseparable from most attempts to work out schemes for the public advantage. Without doubt, however, the legislature is now better disposed to face these considerations. Early in the present year I had the honour to forward to you an enactment which may be regarded as the first step towards more thoroughly digested measures for raising the means of meeting outstanding liabilities, and at the same time providing the funds for educational and other arrangements, for the benefit more especially of the working classes, which are now in serious contemplation.

27. The fixed revenue of the colony is at present raised almost entirely by import and tonnage duties, 85 per cent. of the whole public income being derived in this mode, and the remainder made up by licences on the sale of liquors, public fines, and a very trivial tax imposed on produce and land, originally instituted for the purpose of enforcing a record, and taking its name of the Record Tax from that circumstance.

28. It will thus be seen that this colony is quite without experience of direct taxation; and the system hitherto pursued has commended itself to the public

mind by the advantage which belongs to it of ease of collection, and the unobtrusive manner in which contributions for the public service are levied by import duties. But the revenue so derived is insufficient to meet the requirements of the colony. The later doctrines of political economy are yet only beginning to force themselves upon the consideration of members of the legislature. It is seen that by the existing fiscal arrangements a large proportion of the finest properties in the colony, whose owners are non-resident, bear little or no portion of the public burdens. So large a proportion of the land being owned by the absent proprietor, whose wealth is spent in other climes, and does not tend to enrich the public Treasury, the revenue of the colony is obtained from those less wealthy proprietors whose circumstances constrain them to a residence in the tropics. While, therefore, it is certain that the application of great principles in small communities will often be influenced by disturbing causes found in local peculiarities, for which it is not always easy to provide compensation, I have no doubt that in making the additions to the funds required for the public service the legislature will proceed to raise them by direct taxation.

29. The heaviest liability under which the colony suffers is the loan from Her Majesty's Government on the occasion of the calamitous earthquake of 1843. I do not now allude to the bulk of the amount lent, which was appropriated to the relief of the necessities of individual sufferers, but to that portion of it which was retained for the public service, and was expended in the repairs of public buildings. It may be said that the strain of this engagement is only now beginning to be felt. At this time the amount chargeable on the public revenues on this score is 21,584*l.* The first instalment from the borrowers was made payable by the colony in May 1845, while that from the colony to the Government was not due until August 1846. In consequence of this anticipation, no immediate payment was required from the colony towards the 20,000*l.*, and the interest was allowed to acccumulate; so that, although the sum of 3,859*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* has been paid from the public chest during the last two years, the colony is still indebted 21,584*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*

30. No special mode has been settled for the liquidation of this amount, which forms a heavy draft upon the general revenue of a small colony; and if, when on a recent occasion the legislature petitioned Her Majesty's Government for the remission of the whole obligation of the colony, they had restricted their application to a remission of the portion which must be raised by taxation on a community only just recovering from the struggle of competition between free-labour and slave-grown sugar, their proceedings would at least have met with sympathy, even if they had not secured concurrence. The consciousness that this debt was sitting like an incubus on the finances of the colony has exercised a passive resistance to efforts to procure any public aid to education, or any measures likely to cause enhanced disbursements on account of public institutions, when the existing revenue was barely sufficient to meet already concurrent expenses.

31. The lethargic indifference so easily engendered by depression is now, however, giving way before improving prospects; and the activity which is beginning again to manifest itself by inquiry into other subjects of importance to the well-being of the island will be extended to the financial position of the colony.

32. The true difficulty which has to be encountered is the condition of the labouring classes, embracing the questions of supply of labour, the apparent moral retrogradation of the people, as shown by a seeming increase of crime, and the tendency to decrease in the population, evinced by an excess of deaths over births, for which statistics claim our consideration. All these are subjects engaging earnest attention at the present time.

33. The resources of the island could unquestionably be developed to a much greater extent; its production might be almost doubled, if the labourer could but be taught to appreciate the comforts of life which are to be obtained by the exercise of more continuous industry. It is not that the population is numerically deficient for this end, but that the inducements to labour which prevail in more northern climates have here no influence over the peasantry; and in effect scarcely more than one third of the number shown as inhabiting the rural districts are ever at one time engaged in agricultural employment.

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34. From information, based upon statistics which a short while since some trouble was taken to obtain, it was ascertained that the number of resident labourers on estates was under 6,500. This number, with those residing in the villages which have sprung into existence since 1834, afford an aggregate in round numbers of 21,000. Of these 21,000, upon what is represented to me as unexceptionable testimony, it was made apparent that not more than 8,000 were at work on estates on a given day, and that day one at a period of the year at which a full proportion were likely to be employed. These facts, after every allowance shall have been made for infants, infirm persons, and some who may have been employed in their own grounds, must be admitted to testify to a very great amount of indolence and vagabondism in the rural population, as well as to the difficulty of coercing labour by legitimate modes in a climate where man is naturally indisposed to exertion, and nature is bountiful to prodigality in the means of satisfying his uneducated wants.

35. I fear that there is too good evidence of increase in the number of minor offences, and the calendar of the Court of Queen's Bench exhibits no diminution in the catalogue of graver breaches of the law.

36. I have before adverted to the difference of opinion which exists on this subject, under the head of gaols and prisoners; but, after weighing the testimony dispassionately, it appears to be a just conclusion that there has been for some time a tendency to such an increase, which has now been swollen to a magnitude which can scarcely be accounted for by assigning the alleged strictness of the magistracy as the reason. Chief Justice Sir Robert Horsford has ably and perseveringly insisted on attention to this subject, in his addresses from time to time to the grand jury. He entertains a settled conviction that the evil does exist; and, viewed in connexion with other circumstances in the social condition of the community, there is nothing which forcibly opposes this belief. What can be expected but plunder and depredation, with their concomitants, from youths of nomadic habits, who have no settled abode; who are not to be found for two weeks, in some cases scarcely for two days, in the same part of the island; and there are unfortunately only too many such in this community?

37. Undoubtedly the present evils are to a great extent chargeable upon the extinct institution of slavery. There is little mystery as to their rise. So long as the same set of labouring men lasted, the alteration which had been initiated was not so seriously felt; but it occurred to no one to predict what must follow when that state of things should pass away, and one generation of men be substituted for another, influenced by a change of manners and usages. The force of old habits engendered by long custom survived for a time, and bore better fruit than could have been anticipated in the great and unprecedented change in the condition of the community. But the young population, as they grew up, have been found to be very much what should have been expected as the production of an abnormal state. The old restraints of feudal attachment were by degrees shaken off, without their wholesome checks being as yet supplied by family obligations or the power of self-government.

38. If these inevitable results had been foreseen and guarded against, as far as man could do so, by salutary provisions for educating the rising generation to a sense of their obligations, much at least of these evils might have been mitigated. As it is, the community pays the penalty of its neglect.

39. A proposition I made to the legislative houses for bringing home more decidedly to the labouring classes the benefits of systematic and efficient medical treatment is now being very generally discussed.

40. It has been found, as I have already remarked under the head of population, that great carelessness prevails among the peasantry on the score of health, and that many cases of illness prove fatal which with the most ordinary caution would easily be kept under control. It is suggested that if the expense is provided from the public funds, which might be augmented for this special purpose by many modes in which the labourer would contribute his fair proportion, it would not be difficult to have medical officers appointed to designated districts, and to establish dispensaries in stated localities, at which application could be made for professional aid. Under needful restrictions, arrangements could be settled entitling all residents of the humbler classes within each district to the services of such medical officer; and it is believed that when they find themselves able to obtain the advice, and attendance in

extreme cases of competent professional men, without the necessity of parting for that special object with gains which they are only too apt to prefer to dispose of otherwise, the labouring population will gladly avail themselves of the relief so placed at their command.

41. The scheme is in fact a further development of what has already been brought into action in St. Kitts, where the children under a certain age are provided with medical care at the public expense, under arrangements somewhat analogous to those I have mentioned.

Concluding Observations.

42. I have dwelt at some length on the points which form the chief obstacle to what might otherwise be the rapid advance of the colony to a state of prosperity. Without understanding what must be guarded against we can expect little benefit from remedial measures, selected by chance and applied at random. But even in the recognition of the difficulties which have to be surmounted we may admit the existence of grounds for hopefulness as to the future.

43. Although there has been a great diminution in the value of tropical produce, and the labour of plantation cultivation has proved in various years unremunerative, yet, upon the whole, the success of the cultivation by free labour of the valuable staple commodities of the West Indies in well-peopled colonies is demonstrated by the results produced in this island, as well as in the neighbouring island of Barbados; and experience has sufficed to convince the public mind that there is no sufficient cause for despondency in the agricultural condition of the West Indian colonies. The fictitious value which property had at one time acquired was in itself the occasion of much suffering and evil; and the changes of late years may perhaps be considered as having served to ascertain the actual value of property. On the other hand, although the bulk of the people no longer languish in a country whose products yield an immense return, but enjoy in security advantages which they may obtain by a moderate amount of labour, yet it must be admitted that they have not improved in that degree which might have been expected from a free people. The change in their condition from slavery to freedom was (perhaps unavoidably) abrupt, and beneficial restrictions, of which even serfdom was not wholly destitute, were suddenly withdrawn without the imposition of new and more wholesome restraints. No legislative grant for the education of the labouring classes was then made; and at that momentous juncture sufficient care was not taken to lay the foundations of moral principle for their guidance in their new career. It is a proof of the tractable nature of the people of African descent, that things are not worse. But attention to the subject has been effectually awakened; and there has been a general response to the duty of making efforts to meet evils which, if allowed to exist and spread, will prove prejudicial to the welfare of the community. At present there is the general consent of thoughtful and reasonable men to the truth of Earl Grey's observation, contained in his circular despatch to the governors of West Indian colonies, dated the 26th January 1847, that it would perhaps be impossible to adduce an instance of any country of which the agricultural and commercial prospects were so absolutely dependent on the instruction of the lower orders as those of the West Indies.

I have, &c.
KER B. HAMILTON.

MONTSERRAT.

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No. 21.

No. 21.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HAMILTON to the Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(Montserrat, No. 14.) Leeward Islands, Antigua, April 9, 1856.

SIR, (Received May 1, 1856.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, in duplicate, the "Blue Book" of Montserrat for the year 1855, together with a copy of the Despatch in which it has been forwarded to me by Mr. President Rushworth.

I have, &c.

(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.

Enclosure in No. 21.

(No. 18. Executive.)

SIR, Montserrat, March 15, 1856.

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Excellency the statistical returns composing the Blue Book of Montserrat for the year 1855, accompanied at the same time with such remarks as appear to me necessary to illustrate the general condition of the island during that period.

2. It is gratifying to me to be able to report to your Excellency that the financial difficulties under which the island has been labouring for many years past are now gradually subsiding, and I trust that the improvement in this respect may, by the observance of the strictest economy throughout every branch of the public expenditure, prove to be of a permanent and progressive character.

Section 1.—*Imports and Exports.*

1. The returns furnished exhibit, on the one hand, a falling off in the estimated value of Imports, and, on the other, an increase in that of our Exports, when compared with the year preceding:—the decrease in our import trade being 1,259*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*, and the increase in our export trade being 5,470*l.* 9*s.*

	£	*s.*	*d.*
The estimated amount of Imports in 1854 being -	8,963	12	7
„ „ 1855 „ -	7,704	1	11
That of Exports in 1854 „ -	14,515	13	0
„ 1855 „ -	19,986	2	0

The decrease in our import trade is, however, to be chiefly ascribed to the accidental circumstance of the usual supply of goods for the Christmas market in the past year not having arrived till the month of January in this year, the ships from England having made long passages during that season to the West Indies.

2. The entire trade of Montserrat is confined to the neighbouring islands, all direct communication having for several years ceased with either England, the British Possessions in North America, or the United States.

3. The large increase of the estimated value of the Exports has not arisen from an increase in the culture of our staple produce, as the following return will show a trifling decrease in our chief article of export, viz., sugar, but from the estimate made by the colonial secretary as to the value of this commodity during the past year: in 1854 the sugar of this island was estimated at a value of 8*l.* and 9*l.* per hogshead. In 1855 the secretary has valued the export

of sugar for the whole year at 17*l.* per hogshead; this rate, as far as I can learn, the planters here consider excessive, and which they declare they have not themselves realized; about 13*l.* or 14*l.* per hogshead would, I am inclined to believe, be a fairer average.

RETURN of the QUANTITY of SUGAR exported in the Years 1854 and 1855.

YEAR.	Sugar.			Equal to average sized Hogshead.
	Hhds.	*Tierces.*	*Barrels.*	
Exported in 1854 - -	687	334	505	973
„ 1855 - -	767	261	222	968
Decrease in 1855 - - - - -	5 Hhds.			

Section 2.—*Revenue and Expenditure.*

1. The amount of customs duties raised in the year 1855 is 1,440*l.* 4*s.* 11½*d.*, showing a decrease of 126*l.* 1*s.* 10½*d.* when compared with the duties raised in the preceding year.

1854.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Import duty - - -	1,011	14	1
Export duty - - -	554	12	9
Total - -	1,566	6	10

1855.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Import duty - - -	885	10	2½
Export duty - - -	554	14	9
Total - -	1,440	4	11½

This decrease has, as I have before observed, arisen from the falling off in the import trade in the last quarter of the year 1855, owing to the accidental delay in the arrival of the usual supply of goods.

2. The two following returns will best show the actual financial position of the island for the year ended the 31st December 1855.

STATEMENT of the PUBLIC GENERAL ACCOUNT of the Island of MONTSERRAT for the Year 1855.

RETURN No. 1.

ARREARS of REVENUE. Last Year, viz.:—	£	*s.*	*d.*
Property Tax - - -	116	13	5½
Board of Health - -	2	14	6
Loan Commissioners - -	39	6	9
Cash in chest on 31st December 1854 - - - -	111	11	9¾
	£ 270	6	6¼

1855.			
Import duty - - -	885	10	2½
Export duty - - -	554	14	9
Public fines - -	47	19	5¾
Liquor licence - -	60	0	0
Tonnage duty - - -	20	10	0
Porter's licence - -	1	18	8
Property tax - - -	1,074	4	6¼
Forfeited goods - -	4	2	6
Loan Commissioners (this sum includes 122*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* realized by the sale of certain encumbered estates) - -	378	18	0
Loan deposit fund - -	20	9	10½
Proceeds of encumbered estates of 1854 - -	181	14	10
	£ 3,230	2	10

OUTSTANDING REVENUE OF 1855.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Due by Committee of North Estates - - -	10	9	6
Due for rental of Fort Barrington	26	15	6
Due by Board of Health - -	2	8	0
In the hands of the Loan Commissioners - - -	19	8	0
	£ 59	11	0

RECAPITULATION OF REVENUE.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Arrears of 1854 - -	270	6	6¼
Revenue of 1855 - -	3,230	2	10
Outstanding Revenue of 1855 -	59	11	0
Estimated proceeds of loan encumbered estates remaining unsold on the 31st December 1855 - - -	100	0	0
Balance against the Public on the 31st December 1855 - -	7	5	5½
Total - -	£ 3,667	5	9¾

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ARREARS OF EXPENDITURE OF 1854.

	£	s.	d.
Civil, Judicial, and Ecclesiastical Establishment	664	8	10
Board of Poor Law Guardians	43	3	2
Board of Health	15	0	0
Loan Commissioners	30	0	0
Jail Expenses	63	17	1¼
Contingencies	51	18	8½
Road Expenses	13	19	7
	£ 882	7	4¾

EXPENDITURE OF 1855, viz.:

	£	s.	d.
Loan Commissioners	921	1	2
Civil Establishment (for nine months)	573	12	3
Judicial ditto ditto	210	18	9
Ecclesiastical ditto ditto	155	16	7½
Roads	12	3	2¾
Poor Establishment	375	9	0¾
Miscellaneous Expenses	37	9	0½
Public Grant	50	0	0
Tonnage Duty refunded	0	7	6
Jail and Penal Gang	40	8	11
	£ 2,381	16	6½

ARREARS OF EXPENDITURE OF 1855, viz. .

	£	s.	d.
Civil Establishment (for three months)	186	4	1
Judicial ditto ditto	70	6	3
Ecclesiastical ditto ditto	51	18	10½
Poor Establishment	16	17	11½
Contingencies	77	14	8½
	£ 403	1	10½

RECAPITULATION OF EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Arrears of Expenditure of 1854	882	7	4¾
Expenditure of 1855	2,381	16	6½
Arrears of Expenditure of 1855	403	1	10½
	£ 3,667	5	9¾

RETURN No. 2.

STATEMENT of SALARIES and CLAIMS outstanding against the TREASURY on the 31st December 1855, with the actual Amount to meet the same in the Colonial Chest on that day.

	£	s.	d.
Salaries due to the 31st December 1855	308	9	2½
Poor Expenses	16	17	11½
Contingencies	77	14	8½
	£ 403	1	10½

	£	s.	d.
Cash in Chest on the 31st December to meet the above charges	236	5	5
Deficiency	166	16	5½
	£ 403	1	10½

This deficiency is reduced, as appears by Return No. 1., to the sum of 7*l.* 5*s.* 5½*d.* by the following items of outstanding revenue :

	£	s.	d.
Arrears of Revenue	59	11	0
Loan Estates	100	0	0
Deficiency	7	5	5½
	£166	16	5½

3. I have had the above returns prepared for the purpose of showing your Excellency more clearly than the forms in the Blue Book will admit of, the actual position of the Public Treasury at the close of the past year; and when contrasted with the state of the Treasury at the close of the preceding year, a marked improvement is manifest. In the year ended the 31st December 1854 the claims outstanding against the public account amounted to 882*l.* 7*s.* 4¾*d.*, with cash and arrears of revenue to meet the same, amounting in all to 270*l.* 6*s.* 6¼*d.*, leaving a deficiency to be made good in the following year of 612*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.*; while in the year ended the 31st December 1855 the claims outstanding against the island amounted to 403*l.* 1*s.* 10½*d.*, with cash and arrears of revenue to meet the same amounting to 395*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*, leaving only the trifling deficiency of 7*l.* 5*s.* 5½*d.*

4. During the past year I have succeeded in effecting considerable reductions in the various items of the Miscellaneous Expenditure, more especially that comprised under the heads of Poor Relief and the Maintenance of the Prisoners in the Gaol. The system heretofore pursued in this island with regard to these two items has been to leave this expenditure entirely in the hands of a contractor, whose contracts, moreover, were not discharged until

the same had passed through the Committee of Audit of Public Accounts, and, as very long intervals were allowed by this committee to elapse between each sitting, all the charges were most exorbitant. (The last sitting of this committee was held in September 1855, and prior to that date there had not been a single meeting for the preceding twenty months.) All the charges for the poor are now under the immediate control and supervision of the Chairman of the Board of Poor Law Guardians, and those for the gaol under that of the Provost Marshal. All articles are supplied for cash prices, and the accounts are laid before me for my inspection at the expiration of each month, and then paid by my warrant on the Treasury. The result has been a saving of upwards of fifty per cent.; and the poor, moreover, are better fed and cared for under the present system than the former one, and the chairman has reported to me that the change has worked most beneficially in every way.

5. Another system that has long been prevalent in this island of voting not only the salaries of the public officers, but all grants of money by simple resolutions of the Legislature, has occasioned many of the financial embarrassments under which Montserrat has for several years laboured; and for the purpose of placing a final check to this wasteful mode of frittering away the small resources of the island I announced to the Legislature at the opening of the new General Assembly on the 1st November last, that it was my determination to decline henceforward according the assent of the Executive to grants of money under simple resolutions, and that in future where grants of money may be required either for the public service, or for the salaries of the public officers, the practice adopted in all the other colonies of having each item included in bills to be passed in the ordinary course through each branch of the Legislature must be rigidly adhered to.

6. The sound policy of this course has been assented to by both branches of the Legislature. The Legislative Council in their reply observed, "That "we concur in the wisdom of abolishing the practice which has crept into "the Legislature of voting grants of the public money by simple resolu- "tions, and in future whenever such grants shall become expedient we shall "adhere to the more regular and constitutional formula indicated by your "Honour."

The House of Assembly in their address likewise stated, "That as regards "the system of voting grants of money under simple resolutions, it has long "obtained with us, but we cannot but admit that it will be far better to lay "aside this practice, and adopt the one of including in bills to be passed in "the ordinary course all sums of money which it may be necessary to expend "for the public service."

The discontinuance of this system has at the outset occasioned some dissatisfaction, not only among a portion of the Assembly, who for many years past have contrived out of this description of votes to eke out a livelihood for themselves and their connexions, but also among several of the small traders and others engaged in mercantile pursuits in the island: these last were always enabled on account of the necessities of the majority of the holders of these orders on the treasury (for it mattered but little to the Legislature whether there was money or not in the treasury at the time the resolutions were passed) to purchase the same at a discount varying from ten to thirty per cent., and even sometimes at a greater depreciation; they then either paid the orders at par into the treasury for their own taxes, or, should they hold in their hands more than sufficient for their own wants, sold them to the planters for the like purpose, taking from the latter bills of exchange on their merchants in England, and thus realizing a very considerable profit for themselves by the transaction.

7. The change, notwithstanding all the opposition I have had to encounter, will, I am firmly convinced, be most salutary, not only for the treasury, but ultimately for all parties, and large sums heretofore squandered in this way will be saved, and taxation will in like proportion be lessened on the entire community.

Section 3.—*Earthquake Loan.*

1. The amount due on the 1st May 1855 to the Imperial Government on account of the annual instalment and interest of this loan was 1,860*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

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1,036*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* of this sum was on account of the debt contracted by private borrowers, and 823*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* was the amount chargeable on the public treasury.

2. The whole of this sum was remitted to the Imperial Government with greater exactitude and promptitude than has been the case in former years, 223*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* having been remitted in advance on the 14th February, 909*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* on the 11th May, and the remainder, 737*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*, on the 9th June, making in all the total of 1,870*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*, giving a surplus of 10*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* for the purpose of covering any incidental expenses that might arise in the negotiation of the bills of exchange.

3. The portion of the debt that has now to be defrayed out of the colonial treasury in consequence of the nonpayment of such amount by the private borrowers weighs very heavily on the scanty resources of the island. The original sum borrowed by the colony for public purposes being 3,000*l.*, the annual instalment (of which amount to be repaid) being 150*l.*, and the amount of interest thereon (due the 1st May last) being 92*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, in all 242*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* The difference, therefore, between that amount and 823*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*, viz., 580*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*, had to be drawn from the general taxation of the island to meet the deficiency occasioned by the nonfulfilment of the engagements of the private borrowers.

4. On the 1st May 1856 the private borrowers will have to discharge for the instalment of the principal 663*l.* 12*s.*, and for interest 387*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*, in all 1,051*l.* 6*s.* 1½*d.*

5. The Colonial Treasury will have to discharge on account of the instalment of the principal 486*l.* 8*s.*, and on account of interest 285*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.*, in all 771*l.* 8*s.* 10½*d.*

Making the amount due on account of this loan on the 1st May 1856 by Montserrat as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Private borrowers - -	1,051	6	1½
Public treasury - - -	771	8	10½
Total - -	1,822	15	0

6. I have annexed to this Report a return, drawn up by the Loan Commissioners, showing the sugar estates and other properties thrown on the public, with the names of the borrowers, and the amounts originally advanced, the sums for which they have been sold, and the loss that has to be sustained by the island.

Section 4.—*Crime and Prisoners.*

1. I am happy to be able to report to your Excellency very favourably on the orderly and peaceable state of the population of the island. The stipendiary magistrate, in his annual report for the year 1855, makes the following remarks: "The pleasing and gratifying observations I was happily enabled to "make on this subject for the year 1854 are justly applicable to the year now "recently terminated, that there was a total absence of crime of an atrocious "and flagitious nature, such as homicide or destroying the life of man "in its various stages of guilt, robbery, burglary, arson, or any other crime "which would indicate the delinquent to be of a depraved, corrupted, and "vicious nature, totally abandoned by all sense of moral consciousness and "integrity.

"So great has been the immunity of the colony from crime of a grave "aspect that his Honour the Chief Justice, in his charges to the grand jury on "several of his recent periodical official visits to the island, has spoken thereof "in terms of high encomium and congratulation."

2. The convictions on indictable offences for the year were nine in number: —four males for larceny, four males for assaults and batteries, and one woman for wounding with intent to injure another woman.

3. In the convictions before the magistrates there has been an increase of 37 cases, when compared with the number in the year preceding.

The total number of persons convicted in 1855 was	-	259
Ditto ditto 1854 „	-	222
Excess in 1855 over the previous year „	-	37

On this point the stipendiary magistrate observes: "I am of opinion that "every year there are more persons sent to gaol on summary conviction than "would be the case were the magistracy enabled to add in certain cases the "punishment of hard labour to their sentences. The prevailing nature of the "offences (committals on conviction for which enlarge the number in confine- "ment) are for riotous or disorderly conduct, abusing or provoking language "tending to a breach of the peace, and assaults and batteries, the law in these "respects only awards simple imprisonment in default of payment of a fine. "There are a class of persons by whom offences of the above description are "most generally committed, to whom confinement alone in prison has no "terror, and who in many instances, although they have the money to pay "the fines imposed, refuse to do so, preferring to be sent to gaol. I would "respectfully suggest and submit that the law in these and similar occasions "of the summary and inexpensive modes of proceeding should be so amended "that the justices of the peace should be armed with the discretionary power "of pronouncing a sentence to hard labour, either alone or in the event of a "refusal or inability to pay the pecuniary mulct. I am satisfied that then the "parties would be more careful not to offend, or would, if they did, oftener "elect to pay than to be imprisoned."

4. It is much to be regretted that the law, as it at present stands, is in the above respects so faulty in this island, and further that the local legislature have as yet shown no disposition to provide the remedies necessary to meet these defects. The stipendiary magistrate, Mr. Harris, also a member of the Legislative Council, has prepared bills, similar to the Acts in England, for facilitating the performance of the duties of the magistracy, and I trust that these measures will shortly receive the attention of the Assembly, and that on the next occasion of transmitting my annual report to your Excellency I shall be able to report the good effects that I feel confident will result from their adoption.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD E. RUSHWORTH.

His Excellency the Governor in Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

Account of Sugar Estates and other Properties thrown on the Public, with the Amounts lent on them, the Amounts for which some sold, and the Loss sustained.

Sugar Estates.	Borrowers.	Amount borrowed. £	s.	d.	Amount obtained by the Public. £	s.	d.	Losses sustained by the Public. £	s.	d.	
Paradise - -	W. D. Furlonge -	1,250	0	0	350	0	0	900	0	0	These properties were sold to be paid for in four instalments, two of which have been paid, and the third will be due on the 1st May 1856.
Baryeys - -	J. P. Trote -	1,300	0	0	106	0	0	1,194	0	0	
Brades and Little Bay - -	J. P. Trote -	1,850	0	0	210	0	0	1,640	0	0	
OTHER PROPERTIES.											
Harris - -	Quechy Shiell -	600	0	0	100	0	0	500	0	0	The amounts of these properties have been paid up.
Virgin Islands -	Joseph Lindersay	61	0	0	3	0	0	58	0	0	
Lands, Misses Hill	Misses Hill - -	60	0	0	23	10	0	36	10	0	
„ J.A.Dowdy	J. A. Dowdy -	30	0	0	20	0	0	10	0	0	
	£	5,151	0	0	812	10	0	4,338	10	0	

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The under-mentioned Properties are in the Hands of the Loan Commissioners, and to be sold for the Benefit of the Public.

Properties.	Borrowers.	Amount Borrowed.
		£ s. d.
Underwoods - - - -	J. P. Trote - - - -	195 0 0
Lands, Lucy M'Namara - -	Lucy M'Namara - - -	25 0 0
„ R. K. Dyete, deceased - -	J. K. Percy, Trustee to Judith Dyete and Children - - -	118 0 0
A portion of the lands of the Misses Hill - - - - -	See above Return.	
Gerrald's Estate - - -	William Shiell, Executor to Joseph Gerrald - - - -	445 0 0
Dobridge and Percy - -	John Dobridge and J. K. Percy, Executors to R. Dobridge - -	33 0 0
Houses and Lands of Edward Miller -	J. P. Trote, Trustee to Martha Miller	230 0 0
	Total -	1,046 0 0

(Signed) ROBERT SAUNDERS,
Chairman of the Loan Commissioners.

ST. KITTS.

ST. KITTS.

No. 22.

No. 22.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HAMILTON to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 17.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua, May 10, 1856.
(Received June 5, 1856.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the "Blue Book" of St. Kitts for the year 1855, and Lieut.-Governor Robinson's report upon the general condition and prospects of the island.

2. The question of the system of education best suited for the labouring classes in these colonies, being one in which the Queen's Government has taken peculiar interest, Lieut.-Governor Robinson's remarks under this head will attract your attention. So deeply did Lord Grey feel the importance of the subject, that in 1847 his lordship suggested the enactment of well-considered laws to constrain parents to send their young children to some school. The Education Act commented on by Lieut.-Governor Robinson seems to be grounded on a judicious consideration of the actual circumstances of the colony and the habits of the people.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.

Encl. in No. 22.

Enclosure in No. 22.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor ROBINSON to Governor HAMILTON.

(No. 26.)

SIR,

Saint Christopher, April 14, 1856.

Blue Book in duplicate.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of St. Kitts for the year 1855, availing myself at the same time of the opportunity thus afforded me of offering a few remarks upon the general condition and prospects of the island.

2. The financial condition of the colony, strange as such an assertion must appear coming from a West Indian Island, may be pronounced thoroughly sound and satisfactory. The colony is altogether free from debt, and notwithstanding that the year 1855 commenced, as pointed out in my report of last year, with liabilities unprovided for to the extent of upwards of 2,000*l.* sterling, consequent upon the heavy outlay incurred during the visitation of Asiatic cholera in the latter part of the previous year, there was in the treasury on the 31st of December last, after deducting the amount of all liabilities due to that

date, a surplus balance of more than 1,700*l.* available for the services of the present year, as will be seen by the following statement:

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance in Treasurer's hands upon 1st January 1856 -	3,782	4	0
Deduct liabilities due to 31st December 1855 - -	2,043	18	0
Balance available for services of 1856 - - -	1,738	6	0

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The revenue of 1855 exceeds that of 1854 by 527*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*, being respectively 14,644*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* and 15,172*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*; whilst the expenditure for the same period is diminished by 7,212*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, being, in 1854, 19,994*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, and in 1855 12,782*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* The augmentation of income and reduction of outlay thus aggregating 7,740*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*

4. The increase in the revenue is attributable to the imposition by the legislature in February 1855, for two years, of an additional 15 per cent. upon the then existing duties, in order to compensate in some measure for the extraordinary expenditure incurred during the visitation of cholera; but for this wise provision the revenue would have exhibited a corresponding decrease, the epidemic having affected unfavorably both the imports and exports of last year. The revenue collected during each of the five past years was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1851 - - -	17,902	11	11
1852 - - -	13,265	14	8
1853 - - -	14,206	16	1
1854 - - -	14,644	8	6
1855 - - -	15,172	5	7

5. The large decrease in the expenditure is to be ascribed both to the reduction in the heavy sanitary disbursements, which swell the expenditure of 1854, and also to the strict economy observed, and the consequent retrenchment effected, during the past year in almost every department of the public service. It is satisfactory to observe that, notwithstanding the payment of the remnant of cholera expenses amounting to nearly 1,400*l.*, and the outlay of upwards of 600*l.* in the completion of the pier, the expenditure of 1855 is, without any sacrifice of efficiency, lower than that of several previous years. The following is a statement of the expenditure for each of the last five years:

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1851 - - -	14,672	7	6½
1852 - - -	13,090	10	11
1853 - - -	12,632	11	0
1854 - - -	19,994	11	5
1855 - - -	12,782	5	2

6. The financial prospect for the present year is very satisfactory. I annex a return showing the probable revenue and expenditure for 1856, by which it is estimated that the revenue will exceed the ordinary expenditure by more than 5,000*l.* sterling, an excess, however, not disproportionate to the required outlay upon the proposed new church in the town of Basseterre, and the other public works at present in progress.

FINANCIAL ESTIMATE for 1856.

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Fixed Establishment - -	8,000	0	0
Public institutions - -	1,680	0	0
Incidental and miscellaneous -	790	0	0
Roads and bridges - -	1,300	0	0
Total ordinary expenditure	11,770	0	0
Excess of income over ordinary expenditure - -	5,118	0	0
	£16,888	0	0

ESTIMATED REVENUE.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance in hand on 1st January after deducting liabilities of 1855 - - - -	1,738	0	0
Import duties and tonnage -	10,800	0	0
Export duties and house tax -	3,500	0	0
Other sources - - -	850	0	0
	£16,888	0	0

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Imports and Exports.

7. There is a decrease in the estimated value of the imports as compared with 1854, amounting to 11,867*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*, the value of imports for 1855 being returned at 96,097*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*, whereas for the previous year it was 107,965*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* The exports on the other hand exhibit an increase from 133,089*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* in 1854 to 144,641*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* in 1855, showing an improvement of 11,552*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* in the latter year. The exports of the year, it will be observed, have exceeded the imports by 48,544*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*

8. The falling off in the value of the imports is to be accounted for by the necessarily diminished consumption of a population reduced by one sixth of its number. The imports for 1855, nevertheless, exceed in value the average of the five previous years.

9. The increase in the value of the exports arises from the improvement in the sugar market at home, the quantity of produce exported in 1855 not quite equalling that of the previous year in consequence of the cessation of all field labour during, and for a short time subsequent to, the prevalence of cholera, a result, the probability of which was foreshown in my report of last year. Notwithstanding that the cultivation of the estates was resumed with as little delay as possible, and is being carried on at present with energy and skill, I fear that the cessation of labour mentioned above will affect still more injuriously the production of the present year, in consequence of its having occurred at that season when the planting of the crop for 1856 should have been in full operation. I append to this despatch, a tabular statement showing at a glance the revenue, expenditure, value of imports, value of exports, and quantity of produce exported for each of the last fifty-three years, which presents on the whole gratifying evidence of the progressive improvement of this colony during a number of years, for although no very considerable increase in productiveness is observable during the last thirty years, yet when the eventful changes of that period are borne in mind, I hold that the fact of no permanent retrogression having taken place must be considered as a result eminently satisfactory; and the manner in which difficulties and dangers to which others have succumbed have here been boldly encountered and successfully overcome, as fully evidenced by this return, cannot fail to encourage feelings of thankfulness for the past and hope for the future. The following is a statement abstracted from this paper of the production of sugar for the last three years as compared with the last three under protective duties, and also with the same period immediately preceding the abolition of slavery.

Paper A. in Appendix. Page 199.

	Hhds.		Hhds.		Hhds.
1832	6,494	1844	7,736	1853	7,053
1833	5,614	1845	7,542	1854	8,005
1834	7,727	1846	5,837	1855	7,245
	19,825		21,115		22,303

10. A comparison of the nine years which have elapsed since the alteration in the commercial policy of the British Empire in 1846, with a similar term prior to that change is equally favourable, being as follows:

Sugar exported for nine years, from 1838 to 1846 inclusive - 56,357
Ditto ditto from 1847 to 1855 inclusive - 57,941

Public Works.

11. The public roads have been maintained in a state of efficient repair during the past year at a very reasonable cost; the amount expended on this service being only 522*l.*, or little more than one-half of the annual grant of 1,000*l.* sterling appropriated by legislative enactment for this purpose.

12. The pier or jetty, nearly 200 feet in length, constructed upon wooden piles, commenced in 1854, has been completed during the past year; the total cost of this undertaking amounted to 980*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*, an outlay by no means extravagant, considering the advantage derived by the public in being enabled to embark and disembark, or land and ship goods, without risk or inconvenience in almost any weather.

13. The operations for supplying the town of Basseterre with water from the neighbouring mountains have not progressed during the past year. The metal pipes are, however, at the present moment being conveyed by means of penal labour to their destination, and I hope that this desirable project will be considerably advanced during the present year.

14. The new cemetery in the vicinity of Basseterre has been consecrated by the Lord Bishop of the diocese; the enclosure wall is in course of erection, and interments therein are shortly to commence.

15. There appears to be, at last, some prospect of obtaining a suitable parish church in the town of Basseterre. The old building is in a state of total dilapidation, and having been declared unsafe, threatens daily to crush the congregation. The skeleton wooden erection which stands on one side, commonly described as the "new church," commenced so far back as 1844, but never completed, notwithstanding the injudicious outlay upon it of, I understand, nearly 7,000*l.* sterling, has also been condemned, and is to be removed. The legislature have passed an act authorizing a commission, nominated by the executive, to proceed to the erection, upon the site of the old church, of a suitable structure capable of containing fifteen hundred persons, at a cost not exceeding 3,750*l.* in addition to the materials of the old buildings; and the commissioners, having procured plans and specifications from a competent architect in England, are now in a position to commence immediate operations.

Legislation.

16. Considerable activity has been evinced by the deliberative branches of the legislature during the past year, no less than thirteen measures having become law in that period. The most important are "an Act to encourage the "immigration of agricultural labourers, by means of a small tax upon exports," also "an Act to raise a fund by imposition of a tax upon provision grounds, and "to regulate the distribution thereof in aid of the schools for the education of "the industrial classes in this island." These and others to which I need hardly now more particularly advert, their substance being fully described in the columns of the blue book, amply testify to the spirit of justice and liberality which has animated the legislation of 1855.

Labour.

17. The "labour question," so vitally affecting as it does the staple productions, and consequently the future welfare and advancement of the colony, demands especial notice. The mutual relations existing between the employer and the employed as found in the mother country are here almost entirely reversed. Instead of a severe struggle on the part of the mass of the population, by offers of cheap labour, to secure a bare subsistence, the employer here is striving by a desperate offer of wages, frequently higher than the ruling price of produce will admit of, to obtain a sufficiency of labour. The natural compulsion on the unskilled labourer, which in England is almost irresistible, involving his very existence, bears here no proportion to that upon the employer; the wants of the working class are few and simple, and those absolute requirements which a bountiful nature has not already provided are procurable by a very few days of desultory labour in each month. If, therefore, from idleness, caprice, or any other cause, the labourer chooses to abstain from work, he can do so without entailing upon himself or his family that privation and suffering which necessarily accompanies a similar course at home. That the working classes here labour in the cane fields even to the extent they do must be attributed, I conceive, rather to their inordinate love of dress and to other extravagant follies and vices for the gratification of which a certain amount of ready money is required, than to the existence of any difficulty in obtaining otherwise the actual means of subsistence; and under these circumstances it can scarcely be wondered at that the labourer, as it were, puts his services up to auction and allows the planter to bid for them, awaiting the issue with indifference, since, if not tempted by or satisfied with the offer, there exists no absolute necessity for his working at all.

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18. The position of the planters, on the other hand, is one of considerable embarrassment. With a resident labouring population, far more than sufficient in point of actual numbers to meet all their requirements, they are unable to obtain a continuous supply of even two thirds of the labour called for, and not even this small amount with any regularity and certainty, or without considerable sacrifice on their parts. Wages are not regulated by a just regard to the fair relations between capital and labour, or with any direct regard to the cost of subsistence, but are influenced altogether by the laws of demand and supply, and the supply of unskilled labour which is available being far short of the demand, it follows that the price of such labour is always the very extreme of what the market price of the produce will justify, often indeed far beyond it. The present general rate of wages for field labour is 8*d.* for what is called "a task," which is accomplished in about four hours of the forenoon; this is equal to about 1*s.* 8*d.* per day as compared with the time occupied in a day's labour in England, and if compared with the quantity of work which an English labourer would perform during working hours is fully equivalent to 2*s.* 6*d.* per day at home. But even this high rate is insufficient to secure continuous labour, nor will the labourers as a general rule perform during each day more than one task, although they could without difficulty accomplish two or even three, and thus earn a corresponding increase of wages. The unsettled state of the labour market at present must no doubt in some measure be attributed to the absence of that reciprocity of feeling amongst the planters themselves to which I adverted at some length in my report of last year. Attempts are not unfrequently made to seduce away the labourers from one estate to another by increased wages, or other inducements in the shape of perquisites, a very trifling increase being found sufficient to draw labour from estates several miles distant, although the additional time occupied in going to and returning from work, if applied to the performance of another task, would greatly exceed the nominal increase. However much such a state of things is to be deplored, it is scarcely to be wondered at that individuals should seek by every means in their power to avert impending ruin, even at the risk of increasing for the future the general inconvenience; for it is with them frequently only the choice of the least of two evils, viz. reaping the crop at a loss, or losing it altogether. Even this relief, such as it is, is only temporary, the parties from whom the labour has been thus withdrawn finding it necessary to increase in their turn, and thus a general advance of wages becomes established. In this manner during the last two or three years the wages have been gradually rising, and the quantity of labour allotted for a task diminishing, making together an increase equivalent to nearly 50 per cent. The unsettled state of the labour market is the natural result; the labourers take their labour from one estate to another, the planter puts in his crop not knowing whether he can reap it, and he is in fact unable to make his arrangements from week to week with any degree of certainty; while every permanent advance in the rate of wages, by lessening the motive to exertion, necessarily reduces the available supply of labour in the market, and the difficulty is perpetuated in an aggravated form.

19. This I believe to be a true statement of the relative positions of the employer and employed at the present moment; the difficulty has of late been rapidly on the increase, and there can be now little difference of opinion, but that upon its satisfactory solution mainly depends the future well-being and improvement of this island. The want of a sufficiency of continuous labour not only constitutes the chief obstacle to the further development of the agricultural resources of St. Kitts, for a considerable extension of which with increasing advantage all the other necessary elements are at hand, but even the breadth of land at present under cultivation can scarcely be maintained for any length of time in the face of this difficulty, and should the evil continue, as of late, increasing, the more wealthy proprietors will I greatly fear gradually withdraw from so unequal a contest, and seek elsewhere some less uncertain investment for their capital; for the available supply of labour being unequal to the demand one of two things must take place, either the demand must be diminished or the supply increased, and there seems at present little probability of the former being effected in any other way than by the partial abandonment of sugar cultivation, which from the course of events in other islands appears to involve a relapse into semi-barbarism, every legitimate means should therefore be used to secure the latter an increased supply of continuous labour.

20. The legislature are alive to the importance of the question, and have of late passed several remedial measures. Not the least important amongst these must be considered an act for affording to the children of the labouring population under nine years of age gratuitous medical relief; the mortality amongst this class having been ascertained to be disproportionately great, owing to the habitual neglect by negro parents of their infant offspring, and their unwillingness to incur the expense of employing with sufficient promptitude the services of properly qualified medical practitioners: under the provisions of this Act medical attendance and medicine have been supplied gratis to 2,704 children during the past year, at an expense to the public of only 500*l.* sterling. A measure, to which I have before alluded, has also been carried, having for its object the encouragement of the immigration of agricultural labourers, by means of a small tax upon produce exported; a sum of 1,653*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* was collected in this manner during the last nine months of 1855, and the first importation, consisting of 108 immigrants from Madeira, arrived here a few days since. Immigration, however, must always be considered of secondary importance compared to any attempt to stimulate the actual resident population to greater industry, and with this view the pressure of direct taxation in the shape of a small tax upon provision grounds has also been applied within the last few months. The distribution of the fund so raised in aid of institutions for the exclusive benefit of the industrial classes is the first practical application here of a principle, the extension of which would, I conceive, be attended with very great advantage.

Act, No. 713, passed 5th Dec. 1853.

Act, No. 717, passed 2d April 1855.

Act, No. 727, passed 17th Dec. 1855.

21. But while I thus recognise the advantage of direct taxation, and such like remedies applied as artificial stimulants to exertion, and acknowledge that they may assist to mitigate the evil and afford temporary relief, I on the other hand wish to guard myself against being supposed to overrate their value, believing as I do that if tried alone they must and will prove wholly ineffectual in producing any permanent or solid improvement while the root of the disease remains untouched. Those who take a high and comprehensive view of the whole question in all its bearings upon the population of a West Indian island, who are, as I have shown, under little natural obligation to labour for the necessaries of life, cannot but see that all real improvement worthy of the name must consist in the civilization and elevation in the social scale of the people themselves, and in the implantation and growth of right principles in their hearts. It is only in a thorough change of their hearts and habits, in the stricter observance of every religious, moral, social, and domestic duty, in a more just estimation of their position as responsible beings, endowed with certain faculties capable of realizing certain objects, and bound to fulfil certain duties,—it is only I repeat in connexion with these, which may be said to constitute the genius of Christianity, that their highest elevation, and consequently any permanent relief from the difficulties of the present position, is to be sought and found. I am aware that a change of such magnitude must be of slow growth, and that a large proportion of the present adult population may be considered from their age and antecedents incapable of achieving any large measure of improvement; but with the rising generation the same objection will not hold good, and I entertain a strong conviction that when the principles upon which these suggestions rest are more generally acknowledged to be sound, and when they are kept constantly in view as the only sure and certain remedy, and steadily acted upon, the ultimate attainment of the desired end will in some measure be daily and hourly advanced.

Education.

22. I am thus led to the consideration of a subject the importance of which can scarcely be overrated, as upon the right understanding and application of this powerful element of civilization depends its influence for good or evil, either upon individuals or upon society at large.

23. The state of the day schools and of education generally in St. Kitts during the year 1855 differs in no essential particular from that of several previous years as described by my report of 1854. There has been a slight increase in the number of children returned as having been in attendance in the day schools during 1855, being 2,100 as compared with 1,947 in the previous year; but these figures represent, I imagine, the numbers of names on the

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school lists, and must be read with considerable abatement to arrive at the number of regular daily attendants.

24. The subject of the education of the working classes has engrossed a large share of public attention in this island during the last twelve months. It has given rise to much animated discussion in the legislative houses, and has been freely commented upon and examined in a temperate and useful spirit by the public journals. For many years the day schools in connexion with the different religious denominations of the Established Church, the Wesleyan Mission, and the Church of the United Brethren (commonly known as the Moravians), have been supported altogether by school fees and voluntary contributions, without any assistance from the treasury of the island; the differences of opinion prevailing upon the subject of a public system of education having, until lately, impeded all attempts at legislation, one party being in favour of a course of teaching altogether secular, another being in favour of a national system of education, involving such a small amount of general religious instruction as might be acceptable to all without offending the prejudices of any denomination, while a strong party was opposed to education in any shape. This last was the feeling of a large and influential portion of the proprietary body, and I have almost universally heard from them the same argument, viz., that the worst labourers in their employment,—the most deceitful, unruly, disrespectful, and impatient of direction and control,—were invariably those who had been to school. An opinion so universal could not but be to some extent well founded, and my own experience leads me to believe that these objections are not wholly without foundation, and that the system hitherto pursued in the schools, though well intended, has not been altogether of the most judicious description or that best suited to the requirements of an agricultural population. The teachers as a body have not possessed the proper qualifications for their important and difficult office. With a very limited amount of knowledge, and a very large amount of vanity, they have succeeded in communicating these failings to their pupils in an increased ratio; hence the dislike of many of the youth to honest industry, false and extravagant ideas of their position and claims, an absence of right feeling of relative station and subordinacy, which they imagine inconsistent with self respect and independence. These defects in themselves are sufficient to account for the prejudices of the planters, who perhaps confound the misapplication of the means employed with the soundness of the principle itself. The differences of opinion upon this subject have, however, at last in some measure been reconciled, and an enactment became law at the close of 1855 from which I anticipate the happiest results. It is now very generally admitted that intellectual culture is not the only or the chief requisite in public instruction, but that preponderance must be given to the cultivation of the moral faculties. It has been decided that this can be best effected here by assisting the different religious denominations in their educational efforts with grants of public money in proportion to the number of regular attendants in each school, thereby conducing to increased efficiency by supplying the means of securing properly qualified teachers, placing at the same time all the schools receiving public aid under the control and supervision of a Board of Education, whose duty it will be to ascertain and ensure that the education imparted in each school shall be religious, plain, and useful, and to prohibit under a forfeiture of the state allowance any practices or course of studies which experience has proved to be objectionable and unsuited to the children of the industrial classes.

Education Act, passed Dec. 1855.

25. It is highly gratifying to be able to record the anxiety evinced by the ministers of every denomination to co-operate in this good work; and I feel much pleasure in reporting that upon the Act coming into operation on the 1st of January last, every school in the island in connexion with these religious bodies was placed under the control of the Board of Education. With such union, and a hearty desire amongst all to correct whatever may be faulty in the present system, I feel warranted in entertaining sanguine expectation of success in this interesting and important cause.

Gaol and Prisoners.

Conv^ts. 122 Pop. 20,741

26. The returns under this head continue to be very satisfactory. Crime appears to be steadily on the decrease, the number of convicted prisoners

confined in gaol during the past year being only 122, or in the ratio of 1 to 170 as compared with the population. The following is a statement of the numbers for the three previous years:

1852	348
1853	168
1854	173
1855	122

I append to this despatch a continuation of the return transmitted with my report of last year, showing the number of convictions for each of the last four years, with the nature of the offence committed in each case, by which it will also be seen that during the period at present under review there has been a total absence of delinquencies of an aggravated nature. I cannot better describe the favourable condition of the island in this particular than by quoting part of the address delivered by the chief justice to the grand jury at the opening of the courts for the present year:— Paper B. in Appendix. Page 200.

"It cannot but be matter for congratulation that though this court has been "kept regularly adjourned, in order to afford the opportunity of delivering the "gaol, should the necessity arise, it has not been found necessary to call you "together since the adjourned meeting in August last. There are now only "three prisoners in confinement awaiting trial, and two of those are deprived "of liberty only because they could not procure reasonable bail, and not on "account of the gravity of the offences with which they are charged.

"Before inviting your attention to the particular business of the day, I "would, as has been my habit on this anniversary, refer to the state of crime, "as disclosed by the gaol register during the preceding twelve months. "Although I do not accept criminal calendars as infallible proof of progress or "retrogression of a community in religion and morality, I think it would be "injustice to the character of the general population to withhold from publicity "such pregnant evidence of the extent to which it is distinguished for good "order and respect for the laws, as I cannot but hold is afforded by a decrease "in the number suffering for their offences, whether vices or crimes; the whole "number coming under this category during last year was 122. You will "probably remember that in 1854 it was 173, in 1853 it was 168, in 1852 "348, and in 1851, to which year it was first my privilege to draw your "attention, upwards of 400. The period now immediately under review is "not only distinguished for the numerical decrease of offences, but for the "total absence of delinquencies of the higher orders. It may not be unworthy "of observation, that of the 122 convicts no less than thirty-three are old "offenders, subject to punishment in some cases for the fifth and sixth time; "this last circumstance may indeed show our prison discipline to be entirely "'punitory' and not 'reformatory,' but the whole statement must at the "same time be held to establish that the natural dispositions of our people "have, comparatively, little affinity with crime, or that the administration of "criminal justice has been eminently deterrent. I doubt not but under the "stimulant of public patronage and assistance public education will in future "more readily evince its legitimate influence."

Agriculture.

27. Most of the modern improvements which have stood the test of experience elsewhere, both in the cultivation of the cane and in the manufacture of the produce, have been adopted here, as far as local circumstances would permit. The plough and other implements of husbandry have been very generally used for many years, and the average produce per acre must have increased considerably, since a larger quantity of sugar is produced now than in the time of slavery, upon an area of land scarcely equal in extent to two thirds of the amount then under cultivation. If, therefore, a sufficient supply of labour were available to extend the cultivation again to that amount, the planters could secure a much larger return at a proportionably less cost than at present, as such an extension would not require any considerable addition to their fixed investments. The decrease in the area of cultivation has not been effected here by the total abandonment of any number of estates, as in other islands, but by the relinquishment of such portions of each estate as required

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the greatest quantity of labour. There are 137 estates in the island, 128 of which are in sugar cultivation, and nine only in pasture and ground provisions. Steam power has been brought to bear in manufacturing the produce of fifty of the above estates, there being no less than forty-one steam engines at present in the island.

28. But there can be little doubt that the favorable appearance which St. Kitts presents as compared with many islands of larger extent and greater natural capabilities must be mainly attributed to the unusual proportion in which this island has hitherto been favoured by the residence of the owners and lessees of the soil. Of the 137 estates in the island, fifty-eight belong to resident proprietors, twenty-two are worked by resident lessees, who supplying the necessary capital for their cultivation have at least an equal interest in their success with the proprietors themselves, while only fifty-seven belong to absentee proprietors, most of whom are, however, wealthy mercantile firms at home, who are represented here by some of the most respectable and influential gentlemen of the community.

Conclusion.

29. Upon a calm and dispassionate review, then, of the past and present condition of this island, it must I think be admitted that there is great reason for congratulation and thankfulness. Difficulties and dangers of no ordinary description, and from which inevitable ruin has been constantly and unhesitatingly predicted, have here been boldly combated and successfully overcome. The colony is now entirely free from debt. The revenue exceeds the expenditure. The public institutions are maintained in a creditable state of efficiency, and social improvements are fostered and advanced. The exports exhibit a steady increase. The island has the advantage of an unusually large proportion of resident proprietors, and presents an appearance of high cultivation. Capital is not wanting for the still further development of its resources. The means of obtaining a sound education have been placed within the reach of the whole population, and crime is steadily diminishing. These are the gratifying features in the present condition of this colony as shown in the authentic records now forwarded. For the future, though the prospect is not altogether unclouded, yet I can entertain no doubt as to the ultimate issue of events, if, as there is every reason to hope, trials and difficulties are met in the same energetic and manly spirit which has hitherto achieved such satisfactory results. If, neither looking for artificial help from others, nor seeking in a repining and desponding spirit to recover what is gone for ever, altered circumstances are frankly accepted, and unavoidable evils boldly and manfully encountered, continued prosperity and success may be fairly and confidently anticipated under the care and blessing of an all-wise and watchful Providence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERCULES G. R. ROBINSON,
Lieut.-Governor.

A.

RETURN showing the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE, IMPORTS and EXPORTS, from 1802 to present Time.

YEAR.	Revenue collected. £ s. d.	Expenditure. £ s. d.	Value of Imports. £ s. d.	Value of Exports. £ s. d.	Quantity of Produce exported. Sugar in Hogsheads.	Rum in Puncheons.	Molasses in Puncheons.	Salt in Barrels.	Potatoes in Barrels.
1802	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	15,458	—	—	—	—
1803	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	10,801	—	—	—	—
1804	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	9,852	—	—	—	—
1805	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	12,526	—	—	—	—
1806	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	12,843	—	—	—	—
1807	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	13,390	—	—	—	—
1808	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	10,005	—	—	—	—
1809	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	8,800	—	—	—	—
1810	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	9,414	—	—	—	—
1811	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	7,884	—	—	—	—
1812	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	7,916	—	—	—	—
1813	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	6,256	—	—	—	—
1814	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	9,913	—	—	—	—
1815	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	7,470	—	—	—	—
1816	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	6,783	—	—	—	—
1817	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,869	—	—	—	—
1818	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	6,296	—	—	—	—
1819	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	6,496	—	—	—	—
1820	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	6,471	—	—	—	—
1821	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	7,880	—	—	—	—
1822	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	7,509	—	—	—	—
1823	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,185	—	—	—	—
1824	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	9,683	—	—	—	—
1825	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,344	—	—	—	—
1826	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	8,721	—	—	—	—
1827	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	8,314	1,653	3,265	—	—
1828	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	7,157	2,377	1,233	—	—
1829	A 8,746 13 1	A 6,897 7 10	- - -	- - -	8,577	2,280	1,707	—	—
1830	A 6,937 2 1	A 4,933 0 7	41,537 8 11	198,728 18 0	8,951	2,990	1,250	—	—
1831	A 2,648 2 7	A 5,401 12 5	- - -	- - -	7,704	3,338	2,536	—	—
1832	B 15,269 19 4	A 4,613 1 2	52,729 16 3	121,682 10 0	6,494	1,170	3,448	5,000	—
1833	A 2,879 13 6	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,614	858	3,834	—	—
1834	A 3,638 4 9	A 6,220 2 2	63,018 2 1	156,013 3 0	7,727	1,255	4,436	7,022	—
1835	A 6,266 0 5	A 5,146 2 5	76,805 19 10	133,560 1 0	7,248	1,328	3,244	1,939	—
1836	A 4,193 2 2	A 4,821 19 5	155,034 0 0	153,621 14 0	5,399	492	2,678	2,052	—
1837	A 6,447 5 0	A 5,348 2 10	- - -	124,394 0 0	5,080	1,058	2,356	—	—
1838	A 6,356 9 11	A 6,175 16 9	153,653 10 11	183,517 0 0	7,487	1,153	3,016	15,906	—
1839	A 9,208 2 2	A 8,404 18 7	71,202 12 11	186,148 0 0	6,606	1,794	2,513	8,355	—
1840	A 8,188 7 2	A 5,961 9 2	C 71,230 2 11	278,544 0 0	6,153	1,475	2,387	1,816	—
1841	A 4,665 10 2	A 6,195 8 7	C 48,024 9 9	106,458 13 0	3,320	394	1,283	3,255	—
1842	A 6,041 10 3	A 6,933 11 2	C 63,655 4 1	149,254 7 8	5,884	956	2,718	25,308	—
1843	A 9,885 19 9	A 8,326 18 5	C 107,689 14 2	105,583 9 2	4,792	412	2,466	14,241	—
1844	12,600 16 0	12,033 9 11	168,370 5 8	180,238 6 5	7,736	913	3,496	892	407
1845	13,499 14 6	15,048 10 8	180,001 15 0	188,612 11 3	7,542	1,175	3,329	—	—
1846	13,060 8 8	13,365 15 8	169,996 2 10	137,502 10 8	5,837	660	2,880	—	6,361
1847	11,905 11 2	12,994 0 0	176,580 10 10	171,955 9 8	7,346	1,710	2,612	—	1,097
1848	8,522 5 2	12,320 0 6	93,328 18 2	87,753 11 4	5,637	1,077	1,431	4,327	7,848
1849	9,697 1 8	9,680 1 3	110,452 10 7	100,359 16 5	5,467	814	2,908	4,418	8,124
1850	11,810 19 11	10,315 17 6	92,418 12 8	81,954 7 1	4,735	411	1,990	41,927	5,068
1851	17,902 11 11	14,672 7 6	112,748 3 2	126,610 0 7	7,312	708	3,752	7,166	8,094
1852	13,265 14 8	13,090 10 11	76,680 2 3	91,741 19 3	5,140	723	1,902	—	3,578
1853	14,206 16 1	12,632 11 0	91,935 11 8	131,812 9 2	7,053	870	2,793	—	11,836
1854	14,644 8 6	19,994 11 5	107,965 0 7	133,089 9 2	8,005	1,922	3,178	24,653	1,139
1855	15,172 5 7	12,782 5 2	96,097 11 4	144,641 12 3	7,245	1,894	1,747	19,370	2,250

References.

A.—In the revenue collected and in the expenditure for these years is not included the local taxation levied and expended under municipal boards.

B.—The large sum of £11,000 handed over in this year from the collector of customs to the treasurer.

C.—No value returned of imports from Great Britain for these years.

ST. KITTS.

B.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CONVICTS sentenced to Imprisonment, or Imprisonment with Hard Labour, for the Years 1852, 1853, 1854, and 1855.

CRIMES.

	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.
1st. Against the Person:				
Murder	—	—	1	—
Culpable homicide	—	1	1	—
Assault with intent to murder	—	—	—	—
Rape or assault with intent	—	—	—	—
Unnatural offences or attempts	—	—	—	—
Assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm	10	6	9	1
Assaults	39	38	32	30
	49	45	43	31
2d. Against Property with Violence:				
House, &c., breaking with intent to steal and theft	5	—	—	—
Robbery	—	3	—	—
	5	3	—	—
3d. Against Property without Violence:				
Cattle, horse, and sheep stealing, theft or receipt of stolen goods, &c.	173	53	63	32
Frauds, embezzlement, vagrant act	2	1	3	1
	175	54	66	33
4th. Malicious Offences against Property:				
Arson	1	—	—	—
Other malicious injuries of property	16	3	7	2
Forgery	—	—	—	2
	17	3	7	4
5th. Other Offences:				
Abusive language	12	7	13	8
Aiding prisoners to escape	—	—	—	—
Conspiracy	—	—	—	—
Contempt of court	—	—	1	—
Cruelty to animals	—	1	3	1
Disorderly conduct	66	33	24	29
Exposing person	3	5	—	—
Game laws	—	—	2	1
Merchant Seaman's Act	5	12	—	2
Perjury	4	1	—	—
Pound breach	—	1	2	—
Resisting police	1	—	3	—
Revenue laws	1	1	—	3
Sanitary	—	1	6	—
Unauthorized detention of property	1	—	—	1
Contract act	9	1	3	5
Forcible possession	—	—	—	1
Uttering counterfeit coin	—	—	—	1
Petty trespass act	—	—	—	2
	102	63	57	54
TOTAL	348	168	173	122

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No. 23.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Hamilton to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 18.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua,
May 10, 1856.

Sir,

(Received June 5, 1856.)

I have the honour to forward the "Blue Book" of Nevis for the year 1855, together with a very interesting report from Mr. President Seymour, which contains remarks upon the present features of society in that island, and expresses the expectations which he considers may reasonably be formed of future improvement under the new fiscal arrangements of Government.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.

Enclosure in No. 23.

Copy of a Despatch from Mr. President Seymour to the Governor-in-Chief.

(No. 13.)

Sir,

Nevis, April 10, 1856.

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book of this island for the year 1855.

General Remarks.

Separated as the West Indian islands are, not only by intervening straits, but by the possession of distinct local administrators, independent legislatures, varying tariffs, differing currencies, and occasionally by the rigid infliction of quarantine, every one of these small communities has worked out for itself the problems with which the cessation of slavery left them all to deal, so that, however little these colonies would on the surface appear to differ, yet each has its own individual peculiarities which it requires time to find out. At the conclusion of the second year of my administration of this Government, I propose to enter somewhat minutely into an examination of the affairs of Nevis, for I wish any measures over whose introduction I have presided to be tested chiefly by their applicability to local circumstances.

This colony, for its size, formerly one of the most flourishing in the West Indies, appears to have commenced a downwardly progressive course previous to the emancipation of the slaves. When that measure was determined on by the Imperial Parliament, the legislature and proprietors of Nevis, instead of cheerfully accepting what was inevitable, and adapting their arrangements to the change, seem to have regarded the liberation of their slaves as an arbitrary interference on the part of the Home Government, which, though they could not prevent, they would continue to protest against and resist. As if forgetful that their own interests were at stake, with an obstinacy of which we now feel the effects, they strove to impede and embarrass the new order of things; and as, after the cessation of apprenticeship, the management of affairs was left much in the hands of the local authorities, they, clinging to any remnants which still existed of a bygone institution, have succeeded in retaining but too many reminiscences of slavery time.

I see that in 1835 Sir Evan Macgregor warned the Legislative Houses of future consequences. He had received "without surprise" the notification of the unsatisfactory working of the apprenticeship system, and he anticipates, "not only that this intermediate stage will become progressively more "comfortless, but that it will serve to introduce at its termination a state of "freedom beset with difficulties, owing to the suspicious feelings towards each "other that must be expected to prevail between labourers and their employers,

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" when the former are actuated by no cause of gratitude, and the latter are " conscious of deserving none." These provisions have been fully realized, and it is with this " state of freedom beset with difficulties" that we have now to deal.

The planters, who always form a majority in the Council and Assembly, have preserved, as I said, under a system where there is no compulsory labour, all the peculiarities they could retain of one based entirely upon compulsion. Slow to acknowledge any rights as belonging to the emancipated labourer, they, to this day, continue the cultivation of their estates without any law of contract to define the relations and regulate the duties incumbent respectively upon master and servant.

No summary mode is provided for the recovery of wages; and the only remedy open to the negro, if aggrieved by the detention of a day's pay, is an action in the Court of Complaints, at an immediate cost to him of between sixteen and twenty shillings; a proceeding which has never yet been resorted to. As the magistrate cannot interfere to do justice to the labourer if ill used, neither can he assist the master if his workmen walk away from the mill or the boiling-house when most wanted.

Employer and employed settle these matters between themselves. The master punishes the refractory labourer by withholding wages actually earned; the labourer retaliates by moving off the property, and offering his services elsewhere. This system is derogatory to the self-respect of both classes, and has prevented the growth of the proper feeling which ought mutually to regulate their transactions.

The Nevis labourer feels that his position is a false one, and he strives to exempt himself from the necessity of submitting to the caprice of a master. His first object in life is to obtain that which the planter is most interested in withholding from him; a means of living apart from the profits of his labour in the cane fields. Yet in nearly every instance the planter has favoured the acquisition of this independence. His whole political economy seems to be comprised in the necessity of keeping the labourer poor in money. Looking backward for a standard of what is right, he has continued and greatly extended all the perquisites and allowances once enjoyed by the slave,—the payments in kind, which, perhaps, when coupled with severe coercion, did not interfere with labour, but which now foster idleness.

The house in which the negro lives generally belongs to the estate, and he can be turned out of it at the pleasure of the proprietor. Such an expulsion, though probably a momentary inconvenience, is no loss. The cattle and sheep which the labourer has been permitted to keep on his employer's land render him careless of leaving a hovel to which no comforts or decencies have given the attributes of a home. Besides, he knows that he will be well received,—if not permanently well treated,—on any other property to which he may repair. Possibly this emigration is often times repeated; but the encroachments of the bush on the cane lands, the increase of cattle, and the erection of kennels, scarcely fit for human habitation, on the skirt of the forest which covers the central mountain, show that there is a tendency on the part of the negroes to escape from the cultivation of the sugar cane towards the wilder districts, where, unconscious of any duties to be performed for the rest of the community, they lead a vagabond life, and allow their children to grow up without clothing and without education. Living thus, these proprietors of stock without land escape altogether from fiscal burdens, under a system of indirect taxation, while forming the very class against whose depredations better conducted people have to pay for protection.

Another cause of the unsatisfactory position of the lower classes is the practice—recently forbidden by law, but not quite abandoned—of paying the labourers in rum. To complete a system strenuously upheld by the principal proprietors, an artificial value has been locally given to a Spanish coin of base silver. It is imagined that by paying in rum and bad money the labourer will be kept industrious and poor. He is made dissolute and idle. The frequent use of ardent spirits will scarcely lead to steady exertion. The want of money keeps the negro without civilizing comforts, his taste for which ought to be stimulated in every way. By lowering his position he will not be made industrious. Our great difficulty is that he seems but too well

satisfied with the mere animal existence which he can always support by the mangoes of some abandoned plantation, stolen sugar canes, or the almost spontaneous production of the potato-ground.

I have hitherto been unable to introduce any improvement in the relation of master and servant by legislation bearing directly on the subject, with the exception of the act forbidding the payment of wages in rum; but a new fiscal system, which has just been introduced, will, I think, be found to effect a pressure upon the most prominent of our social evils.

On the other hand, this "state of freedom beset with difficulties" has reduced most of the proprietors to poverty, and driven the greater part of them into emigration. Where formerly a numerous and efficient white militia was kept up, the present adult male population of European extraction does not amount to 60 individuals. To those who still make the colony their home the state of existence is not very satisfactory. A feeling of insecurity pervades their small number, surrounded by a population of trespassers, whose trespasses are tolerated as much from fear as from interest. So that, upon the whole, though nature has done as much for Nevis as for most places, the general aspect of things is sufficiently gloomy.

Far be it from me to throw the whole blame upon the planters. It is impossible to withhold one's sympathy from them. Hard working and economical, they pursue their avocations among saucy and independent negroes, whose whims they must humour, and whose impertinence they must endure; but as the power of legislating is in their hands, I take it they must be held responsible for some of the evils under which they labour. If they could set their minds to a consideration of the present West Indian question, undisturbed by recollections of the past, they might even now place matters on a more satisfactory footing.

When, in Nevis, an unnatural system, under which men were divided into slaves and the owners of slaves, was broken in pieces, it was in a colony shut up and isolated by heavy import duties that the disconnected fragments were left to form by their own action into fresh combinations. Unfortunately these fragments have not grown into a society on the model to be found in happier places. The different classes keeping at first aloof, a sort of mental stagnation was occasioned, which after a time began to generate unsound and with the emancipated somewhat dangerous ideas. Crimes of violence to the person became of frequent commission, and a strange form of worship sprung up amongst the negroes, which attracts even now occasionally from 600 to 700 persons in a congregation. The sect professes a belief in Christianity, and its members are considered steady workers, keep their houses comparatively neat and clean, and escaped with singular immunity when the cholera was prevalent in the island. Their rites offend more by folly and the deplorable admixture of African superstition than by actual immorality; but the general tone of feeling of the sect is bad; and I regret to hear that a special service is held to rejoice over the departure of any white family, and the preacher then points out how few of that colour remain.

Turning from the rural districts to the town, its well-built houses, on the shores of one of the best roadsteads in the West Indies, have been gradually falling into decay. The few shop windows present little to catch the eye, and the price of such articles as are exhibited is exorbitantly high, for the shopkeeper must protect himself by high charges against loss in accepting at its artificial value the coin of impure silver to which the people have secured for the last 40 years a favoured currency.

I see nothing in the common dry goods and hardware presented for sale to tempt the indolent and self-satisfied negro to work for its possession, or to give him any correct idea of the real value of his labour.

Revenue and Expenditure.

A creditable effort, as far as intentions go, was made by the Legislative Houses early in the session to raise a sufficient revenue to pay off the cholera debt, and meet the current expenses. I say, as far as intentions go, for the increase of duties has led to a diminution of receipts.

In my opening address I had advocated the entire supersession of indirect by direct taxation, and a Bill in accordance with my recommendation was brought into the House of Assembly by the Solicitor General. It found so

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little favour there that the second reading was only obtained by the pledge that no effort would be made to press the Bill for the next six months. It was resumed, and passed on the 3d of October; but as the Act did not come financially into operation until the 1st March in this current year, I will place the remarks I desire to make upon it under the head of "Legislation."

Having put aside the Direct Taxation Bill, the Assembly proceeded to provide a sufficient revenue according to the old fiscal system. The first step was the placing an additional duty on imports. The price of all articles had previously been sufficiently high to operate as a check on consumption, and the result of this financial measure has been the diminution by upwards of a third in the customs receipts. Under the raised tariff the import duties realized in 1855 but 1,223*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.*, against 1,918*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* in 1854; thus exhibiting a decrease of 694*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.*, although the sugar crop of 1855 had exceeded that of the preceding year by more than two hundred tons.

The export duty on sugar, rum, and molasses was also increased, and there is a small augmentation in the revenue of 1855 under this head, but towards the close of the year it began to show a rapid falling off, as even the bulky sugar hogsheads were brought by the heavy duty within the scope of the smuggler's operations, and sent off in open boats, to be placed on board vessels loading in the roadstead of St. Kitts.

There is a small increase in the receipts on account of public fines, from my having put a stop to the practice of the magistrates receiving the money raised under their adjudications, and made the police officers responsible to me for the regular payment of this branch of the revenue into the Treasury. A trifling sum has been levied under the Rum Licence Act, which came into operation in November.

The other taxes have been less productive than usual; and the arrangements made by the Assembly to augment the revenue by imposing additional duties in all directions have ended in the signal failure, of a total diminution of £560 10*s.* in the revenue of the year.

The income tax was increased along with the indirect taxes, and the Treasurer has reported a remarkable decrease in its proceeds, adding as an explanation, "Poverty and inability to pay." I cannot admit the correctness of this explanation, for the cause is simply that the unpaid income tax commissioners, neglecting their duty, did not levy the second moiety of the tax until January 1856, although it was payable in December 1855. The income tax for 1855 is fixed at the rate of income received by the individual in the preceding year. Therefore the Treasurer's remark, if worth anything, must be held to apply to 1854. I have procured an estimate of the incomes for the year 1855 which will be paid in 1856. I find an increase reported of upwards of double the highest estimate made for many years. But I place no reliance on the correctness of the earlier estimates, and therefore draw no inference therefrom as to the advancement in well-being of the community. I only arrive at the conclusion that paid commissioners, as we now have, do their duty much better than the unpaid.

It is but just to the Legislative Houses to say, that they evinced a sincere desire to free the colony from debt, and having relinquished for a time the practice of making irregular grants of money by resolution, without the application of the Executive, a total reduction of 1,087*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* in the expenditure took place, and by this economy the public were left financially in a more favourable position on the 31st Dec. 1855 than on the last day of 1854.

It was evident that the measures of the Assembly crippled trade, and increased discomfort, while missing altogether the beneficial results expected of them; but they had at least the advantage of bringing minds round to a consideration of the whole question of taxation. It began to be perceived that the colony must bear its own burdens, and that the more immediately and directly it did so, without wasting money on a complicated mode of collection, the better it would be for us.

It had been tried to raise a tax on ships and merchandise, and officers were appointed to collect the dues; but this failed, for the ships preferred the larger markets in our neighbourhood, when the small one offered no especial inducement. The tax on clothing and what are called "dry goods" was increased; but this also failed, for such articles do not appear to be indispensable to a semi-civilised population. The black children are turned out naked, and the parents pursued

or neglected their usual avocations in rags. Even the sugar hogsheads, it was found, escaped, if too heavily taxed; and so the Council and Assembly again took up the Direct Taxation Bill, and passed it.

Public Debt.

In spite of financial difficulties, the annual instalment of the principal of the debt to Her Majesty's Treasury under the earthquake loan, and the accruing interest, have been paid with punctuality.

Roads and Public Works.

The roads have been much improved in 1855, and, considering the peculiar shape of the surface of this mountainous island, I must pronounce them to be at the present time in a highly satisfactory and creditable condition.

At the commencement of the year, the system of repairing the roads under unpaid commissioners was abandoned, and a salary provided for a director of works. The high roads are repaired by statute labour, and the taxes on horses, carriages, and carts form a road fund, which is kept distinct from the other public accounts.

Legislation.

1. "An Act to amend the Road Act," remedying some technical defects.

2. New "Quarantine regulations," framed by the Board of Health, and possessing, when sanctioned by the three branches of the Legislature, the force of law. The former regulations were objectionable in themselves, and rendered doubly so by the manner in which they were carried out by the Board of Health, a very numerous and scattered body of men. By the present rules, the Board is deprived of the power of interfering in questions of quarantine, and confined within the proper limits of its functions, in looking after the internal sanitary arrangements of the island, a duty for which the number and dispersion of its members renders the Board well qualified. The delicate matters relating to quarantine, and precautionary measures against supposed danger from without, are attended with a continual struggle against popular prejudice, and require, in a place like this, to be managed with great tact and discretion, in order to make the deductions of medical science satisfactorily prevail over the conclusions drawn from their own experience by an ignorant population. The performance of these duties has now been transferred to a Board of three public officers, under the immediate direction of the Executive. The former regulations of Nevis were probably on a level with the worst of those existing in the West Indies. The present are, it is believed, as little vexatious to individuals and injurious to trade as any now to be found.

3 and 5. Taxing Acts, since repealed.

4. "An Act to amend the Sanitary Act," in accordance with the wishes of the Secretary of State.

6. "An Act to settle the time when a previous conviction shall be given in "evidence on the trial of a party for a felony committed after a conviction of a "previous felony," adapted from the Imperial Statute of the 6th & 7th Wm. IV. cap. 11.

7. "An Act to impose certain taxes on the yearly value of all sugar "plantations and all other real property, and certain other taxes, in lieu of the "present fiscal system."

Under this Act all indirect taxation is abolished, and in its place another system is imposed (singularly inexpensive in its machinery), which it is hoped will increase prosperity by the encouragement of honest industry, and turn to the advantage of the colony all the peculiar facilities for trade possessed by the island, which warred against the collection of customs duties. Local experience seems to show that money, without an immediate inducement to spend it, has little charms, when set against the placid enjoyment of negro idleness. We wish to furnish that inducement, and give a greater value to the wages which the labourer may command, by bringing within his reach the conveniences and commoner kind of luxuries, the production of European civilization, and try what influence the temptations exhibited in pretty shop windows may have upon him. While the customs duties were in existence, the supply of imported goods was limited more by the simple and unartificial nature of the wants than by the poverty of the people. Under a system of perfect free trade, it is

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probable that goods in search of a market will be landed here, to save the demurrage of the vessel.

As regards the details of the measure, I would first observe that the proprietors of sugar estates have been accustomed to bear the principal charges under the now extinct fiscal system, and in the new one the chief reliance is still placed on them, but with this difference;—formerly the tax fell on the produce, so that the intelligent and hard-working person, who developed the resources of his estate, paid more than his share, while the idle or unskilful planter escaped almost free; now the burden is thrown directly on the land, which the proprietor may be said to hold to a certain extent in trust for the community.

The tax commissioners are empowered to levy a tax not exceeding 20 per cent. on the yearly rentals of the sugar estates. It is desired to collect as much money as can be safely raised from other fixed sources, to be hereafter noticed, which press principally upon self-satisfied indolence, leaving the tax on the planter to fluctuate according to the greater or less productiveness of other branches of the revenue. One of the advantages which we anticipate from this mode of imposing the land tax is, that it will lead, in an Assembly composed of planters, to a cessation to extravagant grants of money.

The rental of the several estates has been assessed at a fixed value for the next five years, with a view to economy of collection, and to hold out a direct inducement to the improvement of the land; for the greater the produce the lighter will the tax fall. The assessments have been made on a basis of the probable productiveness of the estate under a simple average cheap cultivation. No higher charge is placed on the land on account of expensive works for the more scientific preparation of the staple; and, on the other hand, it has been found impossible to remit the tax in the cases, but too common here, where land is, to a great extent, abandoned by the proprietor to the use of squatters. The commissioners having considered that where the necessary works and appliances are on the land the owner must be made to pay as if he were rendering it moderately productive, it cannot be doubted that this tax will, in some instances, have the effect contemplated by the West India Incumbered Estates Act; a public benefit, worked out with some apparent hardship to individuals.

Upon the yearly value of all other real property, including the small freeholds of the negroes, a tax, also fluctuating, but in this case with a maximum of 12 per cent., is imposed, with power to the commissioners to forego the payment in case of absolute poverty on the part of an old or infirm proprietor. In the case of the smaller holdings, the tax is principally imposed for the purpose of exciting exertion, for the trifling value of the potato grounds will prevent its being very productive. The ratio of 12 to 20 per cent. will be preserved in levying these two imposts.

On houses not attached to sugar estates or to real property, taxed under the two preceding clauses, a rate, also fluctuating, not exceeding 5 per cent.

The taxes which follow are fixed, and cannot be altered by the commissioners. A tax of 10 per cent. on incomes of 25*l.* and upwards, not derived from sugar estates or other land in this island. This will fall upon the merchants and shopkeepers; public officers and overseers. The former classes will profit by an extension of their business, and the latter by the general cheapness which the new measures are calculated to create.

Upon trading boats, a yearly tax of 2*l.* Upon fishing boats, of 1*l.* A boat here makes a man independent. The power which it gives him of earning money far beyond his present wants render the boatmen generally about the laziest and least worthy portion of the population. So well are they off that they will only ply for double fares on the Saturday, the black man's holiday. This tax recommends itself fully as much from its being a check on an idle vagabond life, as by its productiveness.

Finally, an annual tax of 4*s.* a head on horned cattle (calves and yearlings excepted), not being attached to or generally worked upon a sugar plantation. The increase of cattle seems to be one of the great evils of the place, and until very recently a prohibitive duty was placed on their exportation. Every negro family has at least one cow, whether owning land or not; and the practice of trespassing has acquired so strong a hold that there is not a planter who would have the courage to impound the negroes' stock, unless actually found feeding

on the sugar canes. Cattle reared on another man's land, without any payment for the privilege, appears a legitimate subject of taxation, especially as the attention which they require is of a most desultory character, and leads to restless and vagrant habits. The cattle returns are still incomplete. It is however conjectured that the number is much about the same as that of the human population, namely, 10,000. Of these it is supposed that 1,500 belong to persons without land.

8. "An Act to compel persons retailing rum to take out a licence, and to "prohibit the paying of wages in ardent spirits." A very good law, if it could be carried out; but the police force is very limited, and the negroes are too much afraid of obeah, or witchcraft, to turn informers.

9. Amending the Government House Act.

10. "An Act to authorize the prosecution of all criminal offences by infor- "mation instead of indictment," and rendering the gentlemen who have hitherto served as grand jurors liable to serve as petty jurors on the trial of persons charged with such offences. The useless institution of a grand jury has now disappeared. Persons of the highest position in the island being compelled to serve on the petty juries, the confidence of the public in the administration of justice has been immensely increased. The abrogation of this antiquated obstruction to business has also been attended with the no small advantage of removing one of the many barriers which in these colonies impede the intercourse between the educated and the uneducated classes.

10. "An Act to enable the alien subjects of friendly powers to hold land "in Nevis without calling on them to renounce their natural allegiance." This enactment must be considered as supplemental to the free trade measure.

Population, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths.

It is gratifying to be able to report that the general population increases rapidly by an excess of births over deaths. The last census was taken on 1st June 1844, and returned the number of inhabitants at 9,571. But, as it was notorious that many persons had escaped enumeration, the number was by common consent fixed at 10,000. Since 1844, the population has been increasing so fast as to justify me, I am universally informed, in still adhering to the number of 10,000, although the island furnishes each year some immigrants to Trinidad, and despite the destruction of 1,000 persons by cholera. In 1855 the number of baptisms was 307, against 144 burials, showing an excess of births over deaths of 163, or more than double.

The remark I made in my report for 1854, that it was the prospect of death by cholera which so greatly increased the number of those who relinquished an illicit tie for the state of matrimony, has been fully verified. In the healthy year just elapsed, the number of marriages was only 73, against 163 in 1854, showing a diminution of 90.

Education.

The total number of children receiving instructions in the day schools is 708, and of children and adults attending Sunday schools 1,107. An increase of 65 in the day scholars, and a falling off of 29 in the frequenters of Sunday schools. On the whole, the state of things connected with education may be considered as tolerably satisfactory, making allowances for the circumstance that no public money is given in aid of the schools. The teaching is by no means what one would wish it to be, for the schoolmasters are obliged, under a voluntary system, to conform more than is desirable to the wishes of the parents, in order to prevent the withdrawal of the children, and thus the fathers and mothers, born in slavery, are the principal directors of public education. They have determined that it shall be such as to form an extensive display, no matter how shallow. Unfortunately this tuition is but too attractive to the children, who, becoming more learned than their parents, and having no standard by which to measure their intellectual acquirements, soon imagine themselves to be thoroughly educated, and that it is but waste of time, and a derogation to their dignity, to remain at school.

Conceiving it my duty to absent myself from the annual exhibition and distribution of prizes, where everything is done to unsettle the minds of the children, and unfit them for manfully and honestly earning their bread by

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humble and steady exertion, I yet offered the highest prize at my disposal to the competition of the boys,—employment at a small salary, and training to public business in my office, under the secretary, with the prospect of a permanent provision hereafter in one of the public departments.

The sons of black mothers are particularly ambitious of serving under the local Governments; but the clergyman who superintends the school informed me, that there is not one boy, though many of them have reached the age of 16, who has a sufficiently intelligent knowledge of the English language to be able to copy correctly the commonest letter. My offer was repeated the other day with the same result; still no boy competent to copy a letter. It is much to be regretted that the colony is too poor to permit us to make the schoolmasters more independent. As things now are, I am a little sceptical of the real benefit produced; yet as in these matters one never can tell what great results may spring from the humblest foundations, it is clearly our duty to do all we can to furnish every one with the means of improving himself, and leave the issue to a higher power.

Exchanges and Coins.

It has been the custom here for the last half century to give an artificial value in all local exchanges to the *peceta provinceal*, a Spanish coin of base silver, which purports on its issue from the mint to be worth the fifth part of the dollar, twenty cents, or their recognized equivalent, tenpence sterling, and at this rate it enjoys a tolerated though not legalized currency in the other West Indian colonies.

In Nevis, however, it is made to circulate at a fraction under elevenpence, and this over-valuation has driven away the legalized Spanish and English coins of intrinsic value. It is held by the people of this island that the over-rating the "peceta" is to be justified by its effect in retaining some sort of coin within the island; but while the exports may still be reckoned by the thousands of tons of sugar, I must regard any fear of a dearth of circulating medium as entirely visionary. The experience which has been worked out in Antigua, within a short distance of Nevis, shows that the best means of obtaining an abundant supply of sound metallic currency is to be found in the abolition of all artificial protection on any particular kind of coin.

Being alive to the difficulties which the habits and prejudices of a people oppose to a change in the currency to which they are habituated, I endeavoured to obtain, in the course of 1855, (although aware that it was competent to me to act alone,) the co-operation of the Legislative Houses in an order which I proposed issuing to the Treasurer, that he was, after a certain date, only to receive the "peceta" for tenpence, and by thus equalizing its estimation throughout the islands put a stop to its profitable importation to Nevis. The Council readily concurred with me, but the motion was lost in the Assembly, by the Speaker's casting vote. The anomaly therefore continues, of the whole revenue being collected in a coin which is not a legal tender. The increase of trade which has taken place since the opening of the port encourages me to hope that the inconvenience of the present system will be sufficiently developed to cause the Assembly to consent to its abrogation.

The following monies are a legal tender:—Spanish and Spanish Republican gold and silver, United States gold, English gold and English silver also, to an unlimited extent.

Imports and Exports.

The declared value of the imports was 19,728*l.* 6*s.*, against 20,933*l.* 9*s.*, in the preceding year. The principal falling off is in the importations from Great Britain to the extent of 2,648*l.* 4*s.* A decrease which I find no difficulty in accounting for. It was upon articles procured generally from Europe that the increased duty was thrown by the House of Assembly, in order to raise a considerable revenue. The consumption was checked, though perhaps not quite to the extent that these figures would indicate, for an unquestionable impetus was given to smuggling. It is stated by the collector of customs, at page 173, that the large amount of goods imported from the British West India colonies consists chiefly of goods from Great Britain shipped in vessels bound to St. Kitts, and transhipped for Nevis. This I conceive to be another

result of the late financial scheme. Goods were shipped to St. Kitts for the purpose of being smuggled into Nevis. It would signify but little to this colony whether goods were sent out direct from home, or by way of St. Kitts; but it is somewhat remarkable that the importation from the British islands, which ought, according to the Collector, to show an increase on account of the English trade passing through them, exhibits also on this year a diminution of 2,750*l.* 15*s.* The augmentation of the imports from North America reduces the total amount of deficiency, when compared with 1854, to 1,205*l.* 8*s.* The Blue Book shows, item by item, how the increase of duty has diminished legal importation; while the bread stuffs, which were not additionally taxed, and the number, which was partially relieved, exhibit an increase of 3,645*l.* 10*s.*, although the island has been visited by no blight of vegetables, nor by either earthquake or hurricane, entailing the necessity of repairing or renewing buildings.

On the other hand, the exports for 1855 show an increase of 6,181*l.* 17*s.*, and an excess of value of exports over imports of nearly 18,000*l.*

Tonnage and Crews of Vessels.

These tables are prepared in the form prescribed by Sir William Molesworth's Despatch of the 22d September 1855.

Prisons and Crime.

Every attention is given by the local authorities to the management of Charleston Gaol.

Much has been said and written of late respecting the supposed increase of crime in some of these islands, and the late Chief Justice of Nevis, who took a gloomy view of the subject, has published a small work in which allusion is made to our criminal statistics. It is true that crimes of violence are not uncommon. It is little more than two years since the President of the Council was murdered by broad daylight, in the market place; another murder and execution followed, some short time afterwards; and, still more recently, the rejoicings of this last New Year's Day were disturbed by the malicious burning alive of a child in the destruction of a house. Cases of stabbing occurred so frequently at one time that it was not easy to get a conviction by the negro jury (all the white men being then on the Grand Jury), however clear the evidence might be. The jurors thought the sentences awarded by the court too severe, and determined to acquit the prisoners. To prevent the entire escape of the offenders, some cases of cutting and wounding were disposed of by the magistrates like common assaults in a summary way. Crime had become a sort of epidemic at that time, and fresh cases of violence were heard of daily. The state of things has now become more healthy, and there are but two prisoners awaiting trial at the next sessions, which promise to be the lightest known for some years in Nevis.

It seems absurd, or at least paradoxical, to assert, that a population unusually careless of human life, and who, it must be confessed, are much addicted to petty theft, are not a bad people; yet I must venture to say so. Nowhere is the weight of the Government so little felt as here. We have scarcely any police, for it has been determined long ago in this island to depend almost entirely on religious and moral influences for the control of the people, and the expenses of the Church, as compared to the constabulary, are in the proportion of seven to one. The lower classes manage their own affairs in their small communities, and administer a sort of law, in which there is much of justice, among themselves. Pilfering is one of their slavish vices, which I trust religion, education, and increased communication with the rest of the world will in time subdue.

They do not seem as yet to feel how this despicable crime degrades the free man. A proper self-respect has got to be learned by the negro of Nevis, and the greatest bar to his acquisition of it is his miserable self-satisfied vanity. To prove that our people are not below some of their neighbours, I will again

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adduce the fact, that the children are generally well cared for, and thus the population increases rapidly. The number of births shows, as I think, also, the existence of a somewhat higher degree of morality.

Charitable Institutions.

At the Asylum, maintained by an annual grant of 150*l.*, in-door relief is provided for the infirm and destitute. No able-bodied person has ever been supported therein.

Concluding Remarks.

It is not a cheerful task to consider and comment on the yearly statistics of a colony so depressed as Nevis. Yet there must be hope for an island which possesses a secure and admirably situated harbour, a fertile soil, a fine climate, and a healthy population, with the tranquil enjoyment of its advantages guaranteed by the protection of the British Empire.

I allow myself to hope that the principal measure of the Legislation of 1855 will tend to increase the general wellbeing, not only in the way of material prosperity, but also in moral progress. A month has now elapsed since the commencement of our free trade. I am unwilling to found any too sanguine expectations on the experience of so limited a period, but facts, which cannot be disputed, serve to encourage us to look forward with increased confidence. The imports for the whole year, 1855, amounted to 19,728*l.* 6*s.* In the single month of March 1856 they have amounted to 12,141*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*, or about two thirds of the total amount of the preceding year. The importations have thus in one month not fallen short of 25*s.* a head for every member of the community; and, as far as I can judge, the traffic in these few days of April shows a still increasing activity. Several new shops have already been opened in the town, and buildings are being prepared for others. House rent has in several instances risen threefold. The sound of the hammer is heard, and the smell of fresh paint experienced, among the houses, which but recently were crumbling under the rapid decay of neglected buildings in a tropical climate. Flour is cheaper than in the surrounding islands, and a barrel of it seems already to have found its way to the obscurest and most comfortless congregation of negro dwellings. The roads appear as if the greater part of the population had new clothed themselves, and in the harbour, so often entirely deserted, I now count ten ships of considerable burden.

But the negro must work if he would continue to enjoy good food and new clothes. If these wants of a more civilized state should acquire sufficient hold to tempt him to develop the resources which lie beneath his feet, all doubts would cease as to the new system of taxation proving as successful in practice as it is correct in principle.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency
The Governor-in-Chief.

(Signed) FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

No. 24.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Hamilton to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M.P.

(Virgin Islands, No. 7.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua,
April 9, 1856.
(Received May 1, 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the "Blue Book" of the Virgin Islands for the year 1855, with President Kortright's Report thereon.

2. This Report derives additional interest from the fact that the affairs of the colony have been administered during the last year under a new form of government, and one, the suitableness of which to these colonies has lately been a good deal discussed. The functions exercised by the former Board of Council and House of Assembly have been devolved upon a Legislative Council, partly nominated, partly representative, in which the President administering the government has a casting vote.

3. Everywhere schemes owe their success and the varieties of their working to the circumstances of society, and these in the Virgin Islands are peculiar. The advantages that the greater part of the able-bodied men derive from the avocations they pursue in the neighbouring island of St. Thomas contribute nothing to the general prosperity of the place of their birth, and little to the permanent improvement of their own condition. On the other hand, those who remain in the islands find abundance of land—which, being thrown out of cultivation, is practically unappropriated land—and avail themselves of it to breed and raise cattle,—an occupation which is found so profitable as to lead the President to the expectation that in a few years the cultivation of the sugar cane will be abandoned.

4. Taking into account the general condition of the people of the Virgin Islands, the want of that variety in circumstances and occupation which in other countries creates a class competent to exercise the elective franchise, and the scarcity of men who, possessing the requisite intelligence and independence, are willing to devote their time and attention to legislative duties, the present system of government, which tends to render the executive authority less powerless, is found to be more suitable to the colony than its former Constitution.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.

Enclosure in No. 24.

(No. 8.)

Government House, Tortola,
March 12, 1856.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book for 1855, together with my Report thereon.

2. On the 29th July 1854 the House of Assembly of these islands passed An "Act to amend the Constitution of the Virgin Islands," and on the 5th August it was received by the Legislative Council, and passed by that body. This Act was framed, at the recommendation of Her Majesty's Government, for the purpose of simplifying the legislative proceedings in these islands, by substituting for the House of Assembly and Council one body, composed of six elective and three non-elective members, the Governor or officer administering the government for the time being presiding at the Board.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

On the 27th February 1855 the late Governor-in-Chief of the Leeward Islands, Mr. Mackintosh, opened the Council in person.

3. The greater part of the ordinances passed during a continuous session of four months had for their object the better regulating the mode of levying the taxes, and the modifying some of them which appeared to bear with an unequal pressure. I am inclined to think that the most important and beneficial measure introduced is the "Wrecking Licence Ordinance." I regret to say that there have been two opportunities during the year of testing its efficiency. The practical working of the law appears to have given satisfaction to all parties concerned, and will, I trust, be the commencement of a new and less discreditable era in the wrecking annals of the Virgin Islands.

4. The revenue has not exceeded that of 1854, amounting to about 1,600*l.*, but the expenditure has been so materially reduced by the abolition of several useless offices, that the colony has been enabled to pay off all arrears due to public officers at the end of the previous year, and to show a balance in the public chest on the 31st December 1855.

5. The gaol is in good order. The number of prisoners committed during the year has been twenty-seven. Their offences have been generally of a most trivial nature,—petty assaults and larcenies.

6. The Asylum for the Poor has lately undergone some trifling repairs. There is, I regret to say, a daily increase in the number of inmates. It is to be feared that this institution may eventually prove a heavy charge upon the limited revenue of the colony. A very liberal offer of a grant of land, in part for the use of the poorhouse and in part for educational purposes, has been made by the Venerable Archdeacon Cummins, of Trinidad. I intend, as soon as practicable, to avail myself of this munificent proffer. The paupers who are able to do a little work will be called upon to assist in growing vegetables for their own use: this will, I hope, be of some service in reducing the expenses of the establishment.

7. The general state of the Virgin Islands, in so far as the tranquillity of the inhabitants is concerned, is satisfactory. The country people enjoy the comforts of rude life probably to a greater extent than the same class in many of the West India Islands. Taxation is so light as to be scarcely felt by them; their wants are few, and so easily supplied that they are scarcely called upon to perform any bodily labour; beyond planting a few potatoes and ground provisions for their own use, and for sale in St. Thomas. They are all, with few exceptions, owners of cattle, which they dispose of in the neighbouring island of St. Thomas to great advantage; and as the majority of the estates have been thrown out of cultivation or abandoned, the cattle have an extensive range of pasture land on which to fatten. Tortola is so suitable to the raising of stock of all descriptions, that I have little doubt that in a few years the cultivation of the sugar cane will be totally abandoned, and the whole country will be planted with Guinea grass, which grows here in great luxuriance. A ready market for good cattle may be found, as I have before remarked, in St. Thomas; and in the islands of St. Kitts and Antigua remunerating prices may be obtained.

8. I am sorry to say that the inhabitants of the town are not nearly so comfortably off as the country people. There is no business in which they can engage. Want of employment and naturally indolent habits have generated great poverty. Many respectable families, in former years in comparatively easy circumstances, have now become, from untoward occurrences, over many of which they have probably not been able to exercise any control, reduced to great distress.

9. The immediate vicinity of St. Thomas is, I am inclined to think, in many respects injurious to these islands. The intercourse, carried on by means of small boats, is so frequent that the inhabitants of this colony have learnt to regard St. Thomas as their market town for the sale of their produce, and for the purchase of all the supplies they require. So little support or encouragement is afforded to the few individuals who have opened small shops in Tortola, that their establishments never can rise above the level of the most petty shops in an English village.

10. The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's coaling depôt in St. Thomas draws away the greater part of the able-bodied men from these islands: they obtain good wages; but so seldom do they remit any portion of their gains to their aged and impoverished relatives in their native place, that these latter are thrown upon the public for the means of supporting life. Hence the principal cause of the excessive expenses of the poorhouse.

11. The conflux of large numbers of uneducated persons of both sexes to these coal wharves naturally produces a vast amount of immorality and vice. Many children, male and female, of the ages of eight and nine years, are employed, and it cannot be a matter of astonishment that they should soon follow the example of depravity and dissoluteness set them by those with whom they come into hourly contact. The education they are likely to receive in such a school will hardly be calculated to make them hereafter good or useful members of society.

12. The sanitary condition of these islands is altogether satisfactory. No epidemic disease of any kind has visited them since the commencement of 1854, at which period Asiatic cholera committed great havoc. A few cases of intermittent fever, not of a severe type, existed at the latter end of the year. There is no hospital, and it is much to be regretted that the state of the funds of the colony do not admit of any steps being taken towards the commencement of so useful an establishment.

13. In November a clergyman was sent by the Bishop of Antigua to minister to the spiritual wants of the few members of the Church of England in this community. There had been no officiating minister prior to the arrival of the Reverend Mr. Matson for a period of nearly three years. The members of the Church had insensibly dwindled away to a very small number; and although I scarcely venture to hope that a large congregation will ever again be collected within the Virgin Islands, yet it is satisfactory to observe that there is already a decided though small numerical increase.

14. Schools in connexion with the Church of England are again about to be established, under the superintendence of the clergyman, and I trust I am not too sanguine in anticipating the best results from the diffusion of a little knowledge among the rising generation.

15. The salt ponds in Anegada and Salt Island yielded but little salt, owing principally to the heavy fall of rain at the commencement of the year, which flooded the ponds. From the want of the means of draining, the water became stagnant, and too impure to produce salt. Under any circumstances, however, the yield could have been but limited, unless the ponds had been cleaned, an essential for the production of a crop of even average quantity and quality. I purpose to introduce by legislative enactment a system for the better management of salt ponds, and hope to lay open a new and valuable field for industry.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. KORTRIGHT.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

DOMINICA.

DOMINICA.

No. 25.

No. 25.

Copy of DESPATCHES from Governor Hamilton to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 15.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua,
May 10, 1856.
(Received June 5, 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the "Blue Book" of Dominica for the year 1855, with the Lieutenant Governor's Report thereon.

2. Lieutenant Governor Blackall expresses his opinion of the value and importance of the services rendered by the stipendiary magistrates, and his apprehension of the loss the public service of the colony will sustain if it is deprived of such agencies. The efficient services which have been performed in the West Indian Colonies by officers holding the situation of stipendiary magistrate, and possessing the requisite qualifications, and the advantage it is that the Governors of those colonies should have such persons whose services they can command in various cases relating to the public service, induce me to request your favourable consideration of the Lieutenant Governor's remarks on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 25.

Enclosure in No. 25.

Copy of a Despatch from Lieutenant Governor Blackall to his Excellency the Governor in Chief.

(No. 27.)

Government House, Roseau,
April 12, 1856.

Sir,

3 Enclosures.

I have the honour to forward to your Excellency three copies of the Blue Book for the year 1855, complete, with the exception of the Returns of Imports and Exports and List of Shipping.

These returns were formerly compiled by the Comptroller of Imperial Customs, whose duties have now been transferred to the Colonial Treasurer, and that officer has represented to me that a press of business, combined with impaired health, have been the causes of the omission.

Any report upon these books should more properly have been made by the President of the Council, who administered the Government during the whole of the year, but that gentleman's present state of health unfortunately precluding the possibility of his doing so, I am induced to offer a few observations which occur to me from the consideration of the circumstances developed, and my former experience of the condition of the colony.

Finance.

I regret to be obliged still to report upon the very deranged state of the finances of the island, and this notwithstanding additional taxation, and an increase to a certain extent upon the import duties. The principal diminution of revenue is to be found under the import and rum duties, the former having declined in two years from 5,325*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.* to 3,382*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, and the latter from 1,741*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 931*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*

A healthy reaction, I am happy to say, has taken place in the amount of imports during the current quarter, and this may be considered as the result of the improved prices realized for sugar towards the close of last year in England; but as a reduction has since occurred the increased revenue cannot be counted upon as permanent.

The decline of the amount collected under the rum duty is the natural consequence of a refusal on the part of one branch of the Legislature to allow proper Excise supervision, except over those who are not really the parties inclined to defraud the revenue. I am in hopes, however, that the mistake has now become too patent to be allowed much longer to continue.

Legislation.

The legislative measures passed during the year will be found of the same meagre description as I have alluded to in my former reports, particularly that accompanying the Blue Book for 1852; and I observe that the same result is commented upon, and the same remedy proposed, as I then suggested, in an address lately delivered by the Lieutenant Governor of St. Vincent to the legislative bodies of that island.

Crops and Labour.

The produce for this year promises to be about the usual average. The preparation for next crop, however, is much more extended, which may be traced to two causes; one the increase of prices, to which I have alluded, and the other the greater confidence which has been imputed to some of the larger proprietors by a settlement of the "Hurricane Loan," and which, though it may entail a present loss upon the Home Government, will, I am satisfied, be productive of the most beneficial results to this colony; and I am aware of the deep feeling of gratitude which exists for the very liberal manner in which this matter has been dealt with by the authorities in England; whilst I have the gratification of saying that the agitation of this question has not resulted in a single estate being thrown out of cultivation.

Public Gaol.—Crime and its Suppression.

The report of the Provost Marshal (including a Table, which I append,) gives a gratifying account of a steady diminution in crime. I drew attention to this in my report accompanying the Blue Book of 1853, as a proof of the mode of punishment most suited to make an impression upon the population of these islands. The gaol, though small, is suited to the purpose, affording means of separating the convicted criminals during the night; and this success fully bears out the observation recently addressed by the Chief Justice of Antigua to the grand jury as to the absence of such a mode of enforcing discipline being calculated to lessen the tedium of imprisonment. I should, however, be doing injustice to the services of the stipendiary and police magistrates were I not also to bear testimony to the result of their exertions. To the former is intrusted the whole of the country districts, with little exception, and I confess I look forward with apprehension to the policy which will deprive the colony of such services. It is quite impossible that the finances of so small an island can ever afford funds sufficient to induce gentlemen of the class who now hold these appointments to reside in this country; gentlemen who are not only useful in the peculiar office which they fill, but are constantly called on to perform other duties, and who set an example of energy and activity most useful in the community. To the police magistrate is intrusted the peace of the town; and to the untiring zeal of the present police magistrate, Mr. Edward Lockhart, who has the small force of 12 men at his command, is to be attributed a marked improvement in the general conduct of the inhabitants of the town. In addition to which, I can bear testimony to the value of the exertions of himself and his small corps in case of fire, when, from discipline, they have extinguished a conflagration which had baffled the exertions of some hundreds of appalled spectators.

Education.

I much regret to have to say, that with an expenditure which does great credit to the liberality of the colony the progress of education is not satisfactory. The present Act will expire next year, and from the general feeling evinced on the subject it will not, I apprehend, be renewed in its present state. I am endeavouring to gather the opinions of those who would probably have most power and inclination to carry out the object, for the purpose of submitting a new scheme before the termination of the year. My own impression is that we have begun in too high a key. The subjects chosen are of too scientific a character even for a labouring population much more advanced in civilization than ours. A little reading, writing, and arithmetic,—strict attention to discipline and habits of industry,—and, above all, the inculcation of moral axioms,—the propriety of an adherence to truth, honesty, and virtue,—with a recognition that we are all sent here to fulfil our duties in a certain sphere,—is the mode of education which

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the rising generation of these islands more particularly require. I am informed generally that under the present system the scholars do not improve in habits, manners, or conduct; whilst the want of respect to any superior, and the evident absence of discrimination between the honest assertion of liberty and the overbearing swagger of licence, is painfully observable amongst the younger portion of the population; and the ministers of religion state that the difficulties in controlling them in a moral point of view are daily increasing.

General Observations.

It is very gratifying to me to find a general acquiescence at present in the justice and policy of the views which I have at various times submitted to the consideration of the other branches of the Legislature, and a desire to carry them into effect, but until the finances of the colony are relieved from the present embarrassment the means of carrying out improvements must be limited. I trust, however, by strict economy during the year, and submitting, as all classes appear ready to do, to additional taxation, I may be able next year to give a report of a more pleasing character.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) SAM[L] W. BLACKALL,
Lieut. Governor.

		Death.		Hard Labour.		Simple Imprisonment.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Summary of criminal sentences	1855	—	—	55	20	37	24
	1854	—	—	69	27	39	23
	1853	1*	—	73	38	59	28
	1852	—	—	70	89	73	65
Paid their fees in gaol, and saved wholly or partially the hard labour imprisonment.	1855	-	-	3	2	8	7
	1854	-	-	7	3	8	2
	1853	-	-	86	5	4	10
	1852	-	-	22	26	6	29

Total of Fines so paid	1855	-	£16 0 6
	1854	-	25 1 0
	1853	-	29 16 8
	1852	-	59 4 9½

*Commuted into transportation for life.

No. 26.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Hamilton to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 16.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua,
May 22, 1856.
(Received June 16, 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit Returns of the Imports and Exports of the Island of Dominica, which should have been contained in the Blue Book for the last year, forwarded in my Despatch, No. 15., of the 10th instant.

2. The cause of the omission was explained by the Lieutenant Governor, in his Report to me accompanying the Blue Books, to be press of business in the Treasurer's Office, combined with the impaired health of that Officer on whom now devolves the preparation of these Returns.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Imports and Exports for the Year 1855.

IMPORTS.

Articles Imported. Description and Quantity.	Estimated Value in Sterling. From Great Britain.	British Colonies. West Indies.	British Colonies. North America.	British Colonies. Elsewhere.	United States of America.	Foreign States.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ale, &c., 4,112 Gallons	111	103	- -	- -	- -	300	514
Animals, Living, various	- -	98	- -	- -	- -	255	353
Blacking	- -	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	2
Bricks, Tiles, &c., various	29	70	- -	- -	- -	- -	99
Butter, 231 Cwt.	31	264	- -	- -	62	682	1,039
Candles, various	132	510	- -	- -	- -	137	779
Cheese, 17 Cwt.	44	24	- -	- -	- -	14	82
Coals, 4 Tons	6	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	8
Coffee, 10 Cwt.	- -	28	- -	- -	- -	- -	28
Cordage	- -	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1
Corks	- -	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1
Corn; viz. Grain, Flour, Peas, Beans, &c. &c.	254	4,000	2,555	- -	6,898	191	13,898
Cottons, &c. &c., various	141	129	- -	- -	- -	23	293
Earthenware	88	108	- -	- -	- -	80	276
Fire Arms and Works	4	- -	- -	- -	- -	3	7
Fruit, various	113	3,746	133	80	73	810	4,955
Fruit, Vegetables, &c.	18	231	5	- -	- -	35	289
Furniture	7	16	- -	- -	- -	12	35
Glass	18	21	- -	- -	- -	1	40
Hardware	41	33	- -	- -	- -	1	75
Hats, Bonnets, &c.	- -	55	- -	- -	2	25	82
Jewellery	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	7	7
Lard	- -	237	50	- -	102	2	391
Lime, various	21	18	- -	- -	- -	148	187
Leather, ditto	2	15	- -	- -	- -	22	39
Machinery, Implements, Utensils, &c.	629	111	- -	- -	- -	47	787
Manure	918	526	- -	- -	- -	800	2,244
Matches	- -	8	- -	- -	- -	3	11
Meats, Cured, various	43	976	- -	- -	552	103	1,674
Medicines	24	4	- -	- -	23	7	58
Metals	3	184	- -	- -	- -	- -	187
Nuts	- -	2	- -	- -	- -	44	46
Oilcake	20	43	- -	- -	- -	- -	63
Oils	28	46	- -	- -	- -	414	488
Pepper	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	1
Perfumery	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	4	4
Rice, various	8	264	- -	- -	- -	81	283
Salt, ditto	8	79	- -	- -	- -	265	352
Silk, Indian	6	17	- -	- -	- -	- -	23
Soap, 216 Cwt.	85	130	- -	- -	- -	7	222
Spirits	37	81	- -	- -	- -	7	125
Stationery	47	50	- -	- -	- -	2	99
Sugar, various	243	65	- -	- -	- -	13	321
Tallow	- -	33	- -	- -	- -	- -	33
Tan, &c.	8	26	- -	- -	- -	16	45
Tea	33	1	- -	- -	- -	6	40
Tobacco, various	- -	928	- -	- -	424	22	1,374
Vermicelli	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	42	42
Vinegar	- -	2	- -	- -	- -	14	16
Water, Sweetened, Soda, &c.	- -	3	- -	- -	- -	29	32
Wood, Lumber, Staves, Shingles, &c. &c.	455	298	1,134	- -	805	468	3,160
*Non-enumerated Goods, chiefly Stores of Hardwaremen, Drapers, Estates, &c. &c.	6,523	4,364	- -	- -	- -	194	11,081
Total Imports, 1855	10,173	17,953	3,877	80	8,941	5,267	46,291
Total Imports, 1854	20,113	10,667	2,288	2	11,623	7,816	52,509

* Goods subject to a fixed Duty, not particularly specified in the Treasury Books, but given as here in gross Value.

DOMINICA.

EXPORTS.

Articles Exported. Description and Quantity.	Estimated Value in Sterling. To Great Britain.	British Colonies. West Indies.	British Colonies. North America.	British Colonies. Elsewhere.	United States of America.	Foreign States.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ale, &c., 416 Gallons	-	40	-	-	-	-	40
Animals, 4 large, 25 small	-	130	-	-	-	31	161
Butter, various	-	88	-	-	-	-	88
Clock, a	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Cottons, Clothing, &c.	5	135	-	-	-	200	340
Candles, various	-	38	-	-	-	-	38
Corn, Wheat, Flour, Oats, Indian Peas, Beans, &c.	260	4,123	34	-	-	621	5,038
Fish, various	-	220	-	-	-	170	390
Earthenware	1	5	-	-	-	5	11
Furniture	-	-	-	-	-	6	6
Fuel 343 Cords, 210 Bushels Charcoal, 4 Tons Coal	-	190	-	-	-	24	214
Hardware	-	93	-	-	2	4	99
Hats	-	20	-	-	-	-	20
Leather	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
Meats 30 Bls and 189 Cwt.	8	559	-	-	12	21	600
Lard 5 Bls and 10 Cwt. 1 qr. 19 lbs.	-	58	-	-	-	-	58
Machinery Implements, Utensils, &c., &c.	-	233	-	-	-	20	253
Mill Grease	-	8	-	-	-	-	8
Metals	-	40	-	-	9	-	49
Oil Meal	-	24	-	-	-	8	32
Oil	-	10	-	-	-	-	10
Punchn, Packs	-	52	-	-	-	-	52
Rice, 25 Cwt. 1 qr.	-	-	-	-	-	50	50
Silk, Indian	-	41	-	-	-	24	65
Spirits, Brandy 136 Galls., Gin 15 Galls.	-	110	-	-	-	2	112
Tea, 1 Chest	-	12	-	-	-	-	12
Tobacco, 3,218 lbs.	-	64	-	-	-	-	64
Wine, 126 Madeira, 16 Champagne, 23 Sauterne	65	75	-	-	-	-	140
Wood, Shingles, Staves, Hoops, &c., &c.	-	85	-	-	-	24	109
The following are the produce of Dominica :—							
Baskets, Indian	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Cotton, raw	18	-	-	-	-	-	18
Hides, 1,000	30	-	-	-	-	-	30
Horns, 152	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Fruit, Vegetables*, Farina, Arrowroot, &c.	9	49	-	-	-	2	60
Cocoa, 57,327 lbs.	16	840	-	-	-	-	856
Coffee, 24,243 lbs.	12	70	-	-	-	476	558
Lime Juice, 1,190 Galls.	28	32	-	-	-	-	60
Molasses, 23,245 Galls.	710	-	-	-	-	162	872
Rum, 68,600 Gallons	8,000	-	-	-	-	808	8,808
Sugar†, 4,483,000 lbs.	43,659	17	-	-	-	2,900	46,576
Wood, Logwood	36	-	-	-	-	-	36
Total Exports 1855	52,875	7,464	34	-	23	5,558	65,954
Total Exports 1854	64,261	8,608	-	-	198	5,088	78,155

* Large Exportations of Fruit and Vegetables occasionally take place, chiefly to America, but not being subject to Duty are not recorded in the Treasury Books.

† The Sugar of *Three* Quarters alone is given, no Vessel having sailed from Dominica for Great Britain in the December Quarter.

Shipping for the Year 1855.

No. 1.—Number, Tonnage, and Crews of Vessels Entered at Ports in the Colony of Dominica from each Country in the Year 1855.

Countries whence arrived.	Entered.								
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Great Britain - -	4	1,334	60	1	234	11	5	1,568	71
British Colonies - -	90	3,105	440	44	993	191	134	4,098	631
United States - -	5	725	31	—	—	—	5	725	31
Other Foreign States -	100	1,480	447	41	935	142	141	2,415	589
Total -	—	—	—	—	—	—	285	8,806	1,332

No. 2.—Number, Tonnage, and Crews of Vessels Cleared at Ports in the Colony of Dominica from each Country in the Year 1855.

Countries whence arrived.	Cleared.								
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Great Britain - -	10	2,012	114	—	—	—	10	2,012	114
British Colonies - -	116	2,551	415	18	284	101	134	2,835	516
United States - -	5	733	39	2	244	10	7	977	49
Other Foreign States -	67	1,090	242	59	991	215	126	2,081	457
Total -	—	—	—	—	—	—	277	7,905	1,136

No. 3.—Number, Tonnage, and Crews of Vessels of each Nation Entered at Ports in the Colony of Dominica in the Year 1855.

Nationality of Vessels.	Entered.								
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Vessels belonging to—									
Great Britain - -	6	1,710	74	3	725	37	9	2,435	111
British Colonies -	151	3,833	724	53	1,298	220	204	5,181	944
United States - -	4	536	24	—	—	—	4	536	24
Other Foreign States -	38	525	156	30	149	87	68	674	243
Total -	—	—	—	—	—	—	285	8,826	1,322

No. 4.—Number, Tonnage, and Crews of Vessels of each Nation Cleared at Ports in the Colony of Dominica in the Year 1855.

Nationality of Vessels.	Cleared.								
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Vessels belonging to—									
Great Britain - -	8	1,684	92	1	153	6	9	1,837	98
British Colonies -	139	3,551	547	55	790	229	194	4,341	776
United States - -	4	691	25	3	388	16	7	1,079	41
Other Foreign States -	47	470	146	20	178	75	67	648	221
Total -	—	—	—	—	—	—	277	7,905	1,136

MAURITIUS.

MAURITIUS.

No. 27.

No. 27.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Higginson to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 94.)

Mauritius, May 13, 1856.
(Received September 3, 1856.)

Sir,

In obedience to standing instructions, I beg leave to transmit herewith the Blue Book for 1855, together with the annual report on the general condition and prospects of the colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. HIGGINSON.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 27.

Enclosure in No. 27.

Mauritius, May 31, 1856.

Revenue and Expenditure.

Annual Report.

1. The financial operations of the year exhibit favourable results, and show that the elasticity of our revenue has not diminished.

2. The revenue and expenditure were respectively 348,452*l.* 15*s.* 4¼*d.* and 317,839*l.* 5*s.* 8¾*d.*, leaving a surplus revenue of 30,613*l.* 9*s.* 7½*d.* The revenue fell short of that of the previous year by 18,414*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.*, arising chiefly from the importations in 1855 not having been so large as those of 1854, and from the extra duty of 6*d.* per 100 lbs. on sugar exported since September 1854, imposed by ordinance 27 of 1854, not having been levied in 1855; whilst in the expenditure the reduction is more considerable, owing principally to the augmented charge on account of immigration in 1854, which reached 120,414*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*, while that for 1855 only amounted to 66,225*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*

3. A comparison of the actual and estimated receipts shows an excess in the former of 28,952*l.*, principally in the items of harbour dues, registration dues, sale of colonial spirits, and duty on immigrant engagements; the actual disbursements exceeding the estimate by 12,732*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, arising from the amount paid by the colonial agent for anchors supplied by the Admiralty, cholera and quarantine expenses, and return passage of time-expired immigrants.

4. The following statement of revenue and expenditure during the last five years shows an aggregate surplus revenue of 161,915*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*:—

—	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1851	321,389	18	10	246,932	17	2¾
1852	311,854	5	2	283,053	0	3¾
1853	318,750	18	3¾	285,204	2	3¾
1854	366,867	2	8½	372,370	6	2¼
1855	348,452	15	4¾	317,839	5	8¾
	1,667,315	0	4¾	1,505,399	11	9¼

Taxes during the same period having been repealed to the amount of 55,800*l.* per annum. At the same time the Government establishments have been extended, and other institutions of public utility maintained upon a scale commensurate with the exigencies of a rapidly increasing population.

5. The finances of the colony may therefore for the present be considered as resting on a very satisfactory footing. We are free from debt, with a considerable reserve fund to meet unforeseen contingencies; but the popular tendency leans more to prodigality than to economy, and unremitting vigilance over the public expenditure is demanded to keep it within reasonable limits. The existence of the reserve fund and the continued buoyancy of our resources encourages the tendency to a less frugal management of them.

Imports and Exports.

6. The value of imports is less than that of 1854, being respectively 1,492,788*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* and 1,356,300*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*, whilst that of exports exceeds the previous year by 601,689*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*, aggregating 1,848,090*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*; the excess arising from the more abundant crop of sugar.

The value of imports and exports stands respectively at 1,356,300*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* and 1,848,090*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*, showing an excess in the latter over the former of 491,789*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*

I transmit a comparative statement of the principal articles imported and exported during the last four years, which was published in one of the colonial journals. Encl. No. 1.

7. Our trade with Madagascar reopened in 1854. The value of our exports thither, consisting chiefly of hardware, machinery, cotton stuffs, bricks, beer, and spirituous liquors, in 1855 trebled that of the previous year; the value of our imports having only slightly increased. If the opportunity thus afforded be properly improved, and nothing should occur to disturb our friendly relations with this magnificent island, we may confidently look for the gradual establishment of a considerable and productive commerce with its inhabitants. Our market is now abundantly supplied from thence with beef of good quality, and at little more than half the price that was previously paid for it. The enterprise of the house of Messrs. Menon, Lambert, & Co., who have employed a steamer in the transport of these cattle, has contributed largely to an object of so much value, especially to the poorer classes of the community.

8. The return of shipping in the new form required by circular letter of the 22d September last exhibits a considerable increase in the number and tonnage of vessels, both British and foreign, but especially in the latter. And this increase has been progressive since the modification of the navigation laws. I annex a return prepared by order of the Chamber of Commerce, from which it will be seen that the foreign tonnage entering Port Louis has increased from 8,634 tons in 1849 to 45,098 tons in 1854, while the increase of British within the same period was from 108,653 tons to 150,439. The amount of tonnage entered in 1855 was 155,307 tons British, and 60,549 tons foreign. Shipments of sugar in foreign bottoms have increased, but are still very limited, about one fifth of the whole; shipments to the Australian colonies are also on the increase, being for the last three years respectively :— Encl. No. 2.

	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
1853 - -	231,900	1	25
1854 - -	189,175	1	21
1855 - -	262,720	1	16

Freight to Europe during the year has averaged 4*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*

9. Mauritius has benefited largely by the removal of bygone restrictions from trade and shipping, whilst her liberal and open tariff of customs duties has contributed to the same end.

Population.

10. There was a net decrease of population in 1855, obtained on a comparison of births and deaths, of 1,209, the deaths having numbered 7,175, or 3·5 per cent. on the entire population. In 1854, owing to the prevalence of epidemic cholera, the decrease was 8,929, the deaths having in that year reached 14,775, or 7 per cent. on the entire population. Consequently the decrease of population in 1855 was 14 per cent. of the decrease in 1854.

11. If the details of these figures be analyzed it will be found, that in 1854 there were amongst the general population 33 per cent. more deaths than births, whereas in 1855 the births were 25 per cent. more than the deaths.

MAURITIUS.

Amongst the ex-apprentice population the deaths in 1854 were 66 per cent. more than the births, but in 1855 this preponderance was diminished to 20 per cent. And lastly, in 1854 the births amongst the immigrant population were to the deaths as 39 to 100, while in 1855 the proportion rose to 65 per cent.

12. The births in 1855 show an increase over those of the preceding year of 110, but this increase is entirely to be found in two out of the three classes of the population, the third or ex-apprentice class showing a remarkable decrease. Thus, the births in the general population exceeded those of the previous year by 59, and those in the Indian population by 202, while, on the other hand, in the ex-apprentice class there is a numerical decrease of births of no less than 151. On further analyzing the details of Indian births, it will appear that the increase of male births was only 88, whereas the increase of female births rises to 114; the total of female births in each year having been 982 and 1,096 respectively. And these results are obtained from a population in which the proportion of women was on the 31st December 1854 26·1 per cent., and on the 31st December 1855 28·09 per cent.

13. Again, as compared with these proportions of the two sexes at the close of each year, there is not only a very large absolute, but a still more considerable proportionate, increase of marriages amongst this class of the population; for while in 1854, in a population of 96,142 male and 25,181 female immigrants, there were only 39 marriages, in 1855, when the numbers were 100,541 and 28,245, they rose to 66. And in studying the interesting problem of a prospective equalization of the sexes, it must be remembered that these figures and facts act upon each other in compound ratio, and that every year, besides the very large proportion of women introduced who become permanent residents (for but very few return to their country), there is gradually growing up amongst us a new Indo-Creole race, not migratory and nomadic in their habits, nor even denizenized immigrants like their parents before them, but Mauritius-born sons and daughters of the soil, bound to it by the ties of birth, of earliest associations, and of those habits which grow daily with their growth and strengthen with their strength.

14. During the latter part of the year smallpox broke out in town and in some of the country districts, and though it cannot be said to have raged with any considerable violence, it nevertheless has contributed in some degree to enhance the mortality, and to account for the excess of deaths over births which I have before adverted to. I transmit a report from the Chief Medical Officer upon the cause and progress of the epidemic; also a return showing the number of deaths in each class of the population up to the end of the year.

Encl. No. 3.

15. The most noticeable feature in this return is the disproportionate mortality amongst the ex-apprentice class, which indeed appears peculiarly liable to epidemic disease, and is that class which invariably suffers most. When the census of 1851 was taken this class represented 27 per cent. of the entire population, a proportion which has since been considerably lessened by the visitations of cholera and smallpox, and by the annual excess of deaths over births, invariably incidental to this class. But on the gross return of deaths from smallpox in 1855, the deaths in this class were 45 per cent., while the deaths from the same cause in the general population were only 33 per cent., and in the Indian population 22 per cent., the percentage of the former class on the entire population at the same date being 30, and of the latter class 43.

Ecclesiastical.

16. The Protestant Church of Mauritius has hailed the advent of its first bishop with gratified and hopeful feelings, for the realization of which the eminent judgment already displayed and the conciliatory course pursued by this excellent prelate augur most favourably.

Since the new military chaplain has joined the ecclesiastical establishment, it is composed of four chaplains and the bishop. Two more have recently been ordained—maintained from funds at the disposal of the bishop—and are, I learn, labouring most usefully,—one amongst the Indian immigrants, the other officiating in the Sailors' Home, which I am happy to say has lately been opened, chiefly through the laudable exertions of Captain Kelly, the late harbour master, a hulk for the purpose having been purchased by voluntary subscriptions.

The new church at Mahébourg, recently completed, is a handsome and substantial edifice, with sittings for 420 persons, to be used jointly by the military and civil congregations. Another church is about being erected in the district of Pamplemousses.

17. The new Presbyterian church in Port Louis has likewise been completed, and another Independent chapel at Grand River; the latter by the benevolent liberality of Mr. Noel Jalaffe, a gentleman of the coloured community.

18. Our able and active Roman Catholic prelate continues to manifest in the exercise of his exalted functions the zeal and devotion for which he has long been remarkable. And though, perhaps, the improvement in the religious and moral condition of the masses who profess that faith may not have kept pace with the efforts directed towards that end, undeniable progress has been made.

19. Measures have been taken to gradually augment the strength of the Roman Catholic establishment, consisting at present of thirteen priests, which is totally incommensurate with the numbers of the population entrusted to its spiritual care. But the difficulty experienced in finding priests who are British subjects, and at the same time familiar with the French language, tends to retard the projected augmentation.

Education.

20. The peculiar and formidable impediments opposed in this colony to educational progress have been repeatedly represented. The momentous question has often occupied the anxious attention of the local government, and more recently with better prospect of practical results.

21. The following paragraph, from a minute presented by me to the Legislative Council, briefly enumerates the measures contemplated for the extension of elementary instruction amongst the children of the labouring classes, both Creole and Indian:—"It will be observed, from the foregoing remarks, that I "concur in the opinion expressed by the committee, of the social and political "advantages to be gained from a combined system of instruction adapted to the "intellectual development of both Creole and Indian children; but conceiving "there are very formidable if not insurmountable impediments to the execution "of this plan, I recommend the formation of schools for Indians, as being on "the whole the best adapted to the object, and more easy of accomplishment; "that a limited number only should at first be tried; that teachers and suitable "books in the vernacular dialects should be obtained from India; that the "schools should be placed under the supervision of inspectors familiar with the "operation of similar schools in India; that as regards further provision for "the instruction of Creole children, the working of the existing Government "schools should be carefully examined and duly tested before they are aug-"mented; that effective means should be taken to render these schools more "popular and useful; and that in reference to both sections of the population, "compulsory education should be gradually introduced; and that 'grants in "aid' should be made by the Government to all elementary schools, without "distinction of race or creed."

22. The Council concur in these views, except as regards the formation of separate Indian schools, they recommending that the children of both races should be taught in the same school, and through the same lingual medium, the Creole or patois of the island. The annual grant estimated for schools in 1857 has been considerably augmented, being raised from 5,614*l.* 16*s.* to 8,788*l.* 8*s.*, exclusive of the Royal College, the annual charge for which amounts to 7,016*l.* 8*s.*, the expenses of sending yearly two pupils to England, instead of one, accounting for the increase. The usual report from the rector is annexed. Encl. No. 4.

23. Amongst the pupils who are sent home to complete their education in one of the British Universities, three (all young men of colour) within the last few years have been remarkably distinguished, competing with signal success for honours, and reflecting credit on our colonial institution.

24. In consequence of the departure at the end of the year of the superintendent of Government schools, on leave of absence, I am unable to furnish his annual report, but there are no material changes recorded, except that of the appointment of visitors to the schools in the rural districts, to whom the circular letter annexed has been addressed. Encl. No. 5.

Legislation.

25. The proceedings of the Legislative Council bear testimony to the same desire for enlightened social progress which has heretofore characterized them. Of the ordinances which have been passed, the most important, in my opinion, is that "to enable Persons at their own Expense to procure Immigrants from India." The planters have long desired the freedom conferred on them by this ordinance, considering it a hardship to be prevented from obtaining labour sufficient for their requirements, and at the periods when they most needed it, they being prepared to defray the whole expense of its importation.

26. Much benefit is also expected, and indeed I am informed has already been derived, from the ordinance to facilitate the remedies on bills of exchange, &c., by preventing frivolous or fictitious defences to actions thereon, effecting a reform which was represented by the Judges of the Supreme Court to be urgently required.

27. Other jurisprudential improvements are under consideration, and will, I trust, at no distant period be accomplished. The consolidation and amendment of the Insolvent Laws, a more economical administration of intestate estates, and a revised tariff of judicial charges generally, appear to be the more prominent. An ordinance to establish the latter, and to confer on Judges discretionary power to dispense with English translations of documentary evidence, is now before Council, by which it is designed to both cheapen and expedite the dispensing of justice.

Grants of Land.

28. A reference to the return comprised in the Blue Book under this head will show that there have been but three grants of land made during the year 1855, and that these consisted of very small plots of ground (aggregating but thirty-four and a half square yards), all within the town of Port Louis. It is, indeed, within the town principally that Crown lands are sought after, and even there rather under lease than for purchase. But neither in number nor in value do the leases granted in 1855 seem to call for special remark. I am, however, led to suppose that when the survey of the lands within the municipality limits, now going on, be completed, an additional revenue may be raised by the sale or lease of the plots at present occupied by squatters on sufferance. Every opportunity is likewise taken to convert the old grants termed "en jouissance," or leases at will, on a nominal rent, into leases for a term of years, at their estimated value, or to a deed of sale.

29. The ordinance for the preservation of woods, forests, and rivers has been in partial operation during the year, and I believe with adequate success. When first brought into force, an experimental staff was organized in three of the rural districts, which has since been dispersed over five instead of three districts; but I cannot as yet venture to say that this small body, so dispersed, will be sufficient to perform the important duties devolving upon it. It is an experiment; but should success justify the measure, I shall not hesitate to recommend the appointment of the full number of rangers submitted to the sanction of Her Majesty's Government. The conservation and restoration of timber and water, both of which, especially the former, are understood to be much diminished, and in course of gradual exhaustion, are considered of vital importance to the profitable cultivation of our staple product; and every effort should be made to attain the objects designed by this enactment. Besides, apart these objects, it must be remembered that the law bears also an important social aspect. Squatters, vagrants, and, above all, illicit distillers, have too often found a secure and unmolested means of subsistence in these trackless forests; and in unearthing these latter defrauders of the revenue and propagators of crime, the ranger force has not unfrequently rendered good service to the community.

Public Works and Roads.

30. Two lighthouses have been completed, the main light on Flat Island, with a subsidiary one on Cannonier Point. Two mast lights have also been erected for the purpose of guiding ships into the harbour. As I observed on a previous occasion, the utility of the latter is very questionable. But the effect

of the other two is entirely satisfactory, and will doubtless prove of essential service to our port, rendering shipwrecks, which have heretofore been of too frequent occurrence on this coast, hardly possible, provided there be the most ordinary care and knowledge on the part of masters.

31. In the districts of Flacq and Black River, police stations and officers' quarters are in course of construction. It is expected that when the contemplated erection of similar buildings in all the districts of the island is completed, it will conduce materially to the efficiency of the police force, whilst it will ultimately prove a measure of economy, by getting rid of the annual rent now paid for inferior and often ill-adapted accommodation.

32. Quarters have also been built for the assistant surgeon at the Civil Hospital which were much needed.

33. The only entirely new road commenced was that leading from Mahébourg through the valley of the Cent Gaulettes, which, when finished, will connect the grand port and Moka districts, and curtail the distance between our two principal towns by four or five miles, passing by the "Piton du milieu de l'Isle," through the forest of Trois Islots and Moka, and opening up to settlement and cultivation extensive tracts of virgin land, now untilled and inaccessible. It has however, besides, been determined to restore some old and useful lines of communication which are demanded to meet the wants of enlarged production and a rapidly increasing population.

34. The system of keeping our roads in repair has been for some time in a state of transition, from that of contracts to the direct agency of the Surveyor-General's department, partly by convict and partly by hired labour, and, in consequence, their condition has somewhat deteriorated. The change has, however, now been nearly perfected, and more effective arrangements have been made for repairing and maintaining all those denominated main or Government roads, and kept up at the sole charge of the Government treasury. But the branch and bye roads generally are in an indifferent condition, in consequence of the mode of management hitherto adopted having failed to work. By the system in force, the repair of these roads is made to depend on the contribution by the inhabitants more directly interested of one moiety of the charge to be incurred, the Government granting the other. But after some years' experience it has been found that, either from insufficiently appreciating the object, or from the absence of local organization, or from an opinion pretty generally entertained that all roads should be maintained at the Government expense, the inhabitants prefer leaving these roads in a neglected and nearly impassable state to spontaneously contributing towards their restoration. Some reform of the system has become indispensable. My own idea was that district boards should be instituted for the management of all branch and bye roads, with powers to assess the requisite funds; but my proposal was not accepted, as it involved the imposition of a local rate, which, be the purpose what it may, is invariably met by strong opposition both in and out of the Council.

These roads, however, whose importance increases with the extension of cultivation, and which have been excluded from the other category by a somewhat arbitrary definition, cannot be longer neglected without serious injury and inconvenience, and I shall endeavour by some less unpopular means to compass the desired object.

Gaols, Prisoners, and Crime.

Encl. No. 6.

35. The comparative return of crimes and offences prosecuted and convicted before the Supreme Court in 1854 and 1855 shows a numerical increase on the preceding year, nor can this increase be entirely ascribed to greater vigilance in the detection of crime, though that undoubtedly has contributed; but it should perhaps rather be referred to the rapidly increasing immigrant population, to which class it will be observed that the principal augmentation is to be referred. Organized crime, such as Thuggee or Dacoitee, is unknown in Mauritius, but the Indian is keenly alive to injustice, and excitable when he supposes himself to be its victim. The consequence is that cases do occur occasionally of gangs of Indians, who consider themselves unjustly arrested by the police as vagrants, or hardly dealt with by an overseer, assaulting the supposed wrongdoers upon

the spur of the moment, and thus bringing themselves under the somewhat comprehensive category of the Colonial Penal Code entitled Wounds and Blows, a denomination of crime which includes everything from a common assault up to a most serious attempt on life and limb, and the return shows forty-one cases of this nature, against six in 1854, which disparity of figures more than accounts for the disproportion of the totals.

36. On the other hand, there are but nine accused and six sentenced for murder and attempt at murder, against twenty-three prosecuted and seventeen condemned in 1854; and but two accused of perjury in 1855, against six in 1854. The Acting Procureur-General has seized every opportunity of prosecuting this crime, which is often but too lightly regarded by witnesses in this colony, and I trust that the examples that have been made will not prove without their due weight.

37. The gaols throughout the island are in a cleanly and satisfactory condition, and have been remarkably healthy: the labour of the prisoners is usefully employed on public works, and in maintaining in repair the roads within a specified distance of the prisons; and the escapes of prisoners when so employed, which have heretofore too often defeated the ends of justice, have very greatly diminished since their *surveillance* has been entrusted to the regular police. A better organization and supervision of convict labour have likewise rendered it more valuable.

Agriculture and Manufacture.

38. I am not aware that any new system of husbandry has been introduced, but greater attention is paid to the general cultivation of the soil and to the use of suitable manures, guano being still the chief agent, of which 25,707 tons were imported within the year. The fertilizing power of this manure in the production of sugar is said to be almost fabulous, converting, as if by magic, sterile wastes into luxuriant plantations.

39. I have already reported the appearance of an insect called the cane borer towards the end of the year, and the measures adopted with a view of checking its propagation and preventing further destruction of the cane. I am happy to say that the precautions taken by the planters have been partially successful, with the prospect of entirely subduing the invader. It is difficult to estimate the ravages committed by this insect, but I incline to think that the amount of the crop will not be seriously affected by it. Some districts have been hardly touched, and many plantations have escaped altogether.

40. Notwithstanding the higher rates of duty imposed at home upon sugar of superior qualities, and of which producers loudly, and I think justly, complain, efforts continue to be directed towards improvement in the manipulation of the plant, machinery to the value of 51,506*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* having been imported in 1855, and in 1853 and 1854 31,310*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* and 38,272*l.* 17*s.* respectively, consisting of vacuum and Wetzell's pans, and turbines and new cane mills put up on fresh estates, or to replace others of less power. The use of turbines, of which the supply was for a time unequal to the demand, greatly facilitates the drying process, rendering the planters less dependent on the state of the weather, and expediting the transmission of produce to market, and the realization of its value.

41. It may, I believe, be affirmed that the planters of Mauritius are behind none in availing themselves of every practical improvement, whether in the cultivation or manufacture of sugar, and that the average yield per acre of the soil, and the proportion of sugar extracted from the cane, as well as its quality, bear out the allegation.

Immigration.

42. This sheet-anchor of colonial prosperity has at length obtained a hold so firm as to secure to planters a regular supply of labour, adequate to their exigencies; while provision is made to guard against the evils apprehended from continued disproportion of the sexes. Within the year, 12,915 immigrants have been introduced from the ports of Calcutta and Madras, of whom

3,270 were females, giving a percentage of the latter much in excess of previous years. The port of Bombay has since been temporarily reopened, in order to ensure the requisite proportion of females, which the agents at the other presidencies apprehended difficulty in obtaining.

On the 31st December last there were in the island 100,541 males and 28,245 females, about 55,000 of the former being under contracts of service; wages, notwithstanding this large number, range somewhat higher (the average having been 13*s.* a month), and the demand for labourers at the immigration depôt continues unabated, more extensive cultivation calling for a corresponding increase of hands.

43. Although vagrancy still prevails to a considerable extent, and desertion from estates in a lesser degree, complaints of these evils are less frequently heard. By the change of system resorted to, upon the new organization of our police force, for their repression, absentees are more promptly detected, and either sent back to their masters or punished by the magistrate. The number of persons subjecting themselves to arrest, especially in the town of Port Louis and its vicinity, which is their favourite haunt, indicate idle and unsettled habits; but, taken as a whole, the Indian labourers may be pronounced industrious, well conducted, and docile, and the relations subsisting between them and their employers are mutually satisfactory.

* * * * *

General Remarks.

46. In 1851, the first year of my administration of this government, I ventured to predict that the natural resources of Mauritius, and the peculiar advantages she enjoys as regards her supply both of labour and of food, guaranteed her successful progress, and would place her in the van of the sugar-growing possessions of the Crown; and it is highly satisfactory to me to be enabled to record that the prediction has been ever since in uninterrupted course of fulfilment, and to resign my trust to other hands with a strong conviction that, under Providence, the material prosperity of the colony is secured.

47. Under the head of revenue and expenditure I have given a statement exhibiting the marked success attending the financial operations of the colony during the last five years. The following shows the progressive increase of its production within the same period:—

Crop of	1851	75,000 Tons.
„	1852	80,500 „
„	1853	100,000 „
„	1854	98,000 „
„	1855	102,000 „

The prices obtained varied considerably, but I believe they were on the whole remunerative, and at times highly so. Less borrowed capital is employed in the current expenditure on estates, which, with various improvements in manufacture, and more skilful husbandry, has greatly diminished the cost of production. In a more solvent proprietary, too, greater confidence is of course placed, reducing the charges on, and affording greater facilities for obtaining, advances. Discount, however, on document bills still presses heavily on the producer, the average on the year being $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.; but a few months back it rose so high as 14 per cent.,—ascribable, I apprehend, almost entirely to the very extraordinary rise, and equally sudden fall, of prices in the home market, and the speculations here consequent thereon.

48. The more regular and rapid intercourse with Europe which steam communication with Aden promises, will tend to remedy this and some other disadvantages arising from our distant and isolated position.

49. The new line of steamers will be opened before the close of the year, and although the contractors are not bound to call at the Seychelles Islands, it will for several months in the year be their interest to do so; from which these struggling dependencies must derive essential benefit, as they have long and seriously suffered from the want of a more certain intercourse with Mauritius and Europe.

MAURITIUS.

50. I have not yet received the Civil Commissioner's report on the condition and prospects of these islands during the past year, but my impression is, from the tone of his recent letters on this subject, that he will be able to announce some advance and amendment.

51. Our sugar crop for the past year reached 102,000 tons, and that now about being reaped promises to be still more abundant. Should the season continue as favourable as it has hitherto been, the coming crop may be estimated at not less than 120,000 tons, about double that exported in 1850; and as large tracts of cultivable land still lie unreclaimed, only awaiting the hand of the husbandman, provided nothing occur to obstruct the steady influx of immigrant labour, it is hardly possible to estimate the limit of producing power attainable within another five years.

52. Material prosperity doubtless conduces immeasurably to the contentment and happiness of a people, but the influence of moral and social advancement is even more appreciable. I lament my inability to affirm that these have advanced with equal rapidity, or to speak with similar confidence of future amelioration. There is, nevertheless, a manifest and growing improvement perceptible amongst the masses, both Creole and Indian, encouraging the expectation that the measures now being taken for the extension of education, and the more active efforts made for their spiritual enlightenment, may, slowly perhaps, but surely, rescue the rising generation, at least, from the ignorance and superstition by which their fathers have been degraded.

* * * * *

54. As this will probably be the last annual report which I shall be called upon to make, I am desirous to avail myself of the opportunity to bring under the special notice of Her Majesty's Government a subject of deep and absorbing interest to the community with whom I have been so long associated, but more particularly to the Creole portion of it. I allude to their convictions of the unfailing efficacy of quarantine restrictions for the prevention of epidemic disease. I am also anxious that my own sentiments on this much vexed question should be better understood, because in the colony my views and intentions respecting it have been misconceived and misinterpreted, producing discontent and uneasiness in the Creole mind; in fact, my proceedings have been regarded with distrust ever since my announcement, not long after I assumed the government, that I relied for the protection of the public health more on sanitary improvements than on quarantine. But soon observing the all-pervading existence of an opposite theory, and being satisfied of the inutility as well as the impolicy of contention on the point, I deemed it my duty to acquiesce in the popular conviction, and to base all measures adopted for the exclusion of disease upon this view of the question.

55. I first passed an ordinance, No. 37 of 1851, by which a General Board of Health was, amongst other things, constituted, two unofficial members, out of five, being named. To this Board was assigned the duty of framing general quarantine regulations, and of controlling their execution through the medium of the chief medical officer, one of its members, and to whom is confided the general direction and superintendence of quarantine; this power having been previously exercised by the chief medical officer alone, in either case subject to the approval of the Governor. I have never opposed the proceedings of this Board, by whom the imposition and duration of quarantine have been regulated, although on every occasion my own opinion may not have coincided with that entertained by the majority. The officers entrusted with the execution of quarantine laws have invariably been instructed to carefully enforce them. Solely in deference to the apprehensions of the people, the lazarets have been removed to Flat and Gabriel Islands, about twenty-two miles from Port Louis, involving increased expense and much additional inconvenience to trade and shipping, from the inaccessibility of these islands during the prevalence of strong winds, which are of frequent occurrence. But so widespread, and, I believe, unparalleled, is the terror inspired by epidemic cholera, that the continuance of the lazaret on the mainland was a source of constant alarm and dissatisfaction, and those islands, notwithstanding the serious disadvantages I have described, were selected as being better suited to the purpose than any others of the group in their vicinity.

56. It is hardly possible for any one who has not witnessed the scene, to conceive the state of panic and agitation into which the town of Port Louis is thrown by the appearance of a ship in the offing supposed to have cholera on board, although it is easy to imagine that, to satisfy a community so sensitive and so convinced of the efficacy of quarantine, the most rigorous restrictions and the most rigid enforcement of them are demanded.

57. Such being the state of public feeling throughout the island, aggravated besides by the severe ordeals through which it has recently passed, whose harrowing traces are too deeply engraven in all our hearts to be soon or easily effaced, I submit that the utmost feasible concession should be made to the views and even prejudices of the colonists, although it must involve a departure from those international and commercial considerations by which the laws of quarantine are influenced in other countries.

58. On all other questions I have found the Mauritians reasonable, tractable, and generous; and I therefore indulge the hope that, on calmer reflection, when not smarting under cruel bereavement, they may be induced to admit that no Government, however devoted and unremitting may be its efforts, is able to protect a country from epidemic invasion; and to seek for its appearance in other causes, divine or human, as well as in that of introduction from abroad.

59. It will be gathered from this report that I shall quit Mauritius with sanguine and well-grounded hope for her future destiny. Indeed, it is my conviction that she combines all the essential elements of progress and of promise, which are being steadily developed by the enterprise, industry, and energy displayed in the production of that staple on which the prosperity of the colony entirely depends. I have striven earnestly and honestly to discharge my duty, but I do not assume to myself any credit for the elevated and enviable position to which Mauritius has attained during the term of my government. I ascribe it chiefly to the more confiding policy adopted by Her Majesty's Government towards the colonists in dealing with Indian immigration—the life-blood of their industrial existence—but likewise to the support and encouragement accorded to me by the successive Colonial Ministers under whom I have had the honour and privilege of serving, to the cordial co-operation of an enlightened and loyal Legislature, to a growing confidence in the more effective administration of the laws, to a greater self-reliance and moderation on the part of the people themselves, and to the efficient and zealous aid which I have invariably received from many of the public servants in carrying on the duties of the government.

(Signed) J. M. HIGGINSON.

Sub-Enclosure 1. in No. 27.

Sub-Encl. 1. in No. 27.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of IMPORTATIONS and EXPORTATIONS of the PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of COMMERCE into and from MAURITIUS during the last Four Years.

ARTICLES.	IMPORTATIONS.				EXPORTATIONS.			
	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.
Animals:—								
Horses - - No.	618	360	680	899	41	25	25	41
Cows and Oxen - „	2,528	2,223	6,059	7,011	107	17	—	6
Mules - - - „	1,289	1,368	1,159	3,159	156	128	6	116
Bags:—								
Vacoa - - „	—	11,570	10,000	11,500	—	2,900	1,200	2,550
Gunny - - „	120,108	204,615	396,340	111,922	47,806	4,500	11,700	38,400
Beef, Salted - - Cwt.	7,204	8,418	6,170	9,945	127	14	506	—
Beer and Ale - - Casks	552	1,041	2,386	1,826	126	—	1	42
Ditto - - Dz. Bot.	30,287	23,260	36,517	30,287	580	1,217	283	965
Carriages - - No.	94	62	103	109	2	2	1	7
Cheese - - - Cwt.	1,211	1,411	1,211	753	2	2	3	1
Coals - - - Tons	6,047	16,138	12,997	9,060	28	—	235	3,023
Clocks and Watches - No.	163	287	586	552	2	—	—	—
Coffee - - - Cwt.	4,012	6,902	6,006	10,131	16	258	3	435½
Cordage:—								
Hemp - - „	4,565	2,136	2,532	6,047	93	169	25	3
Coir - - - „	1,754	2,452	1,463	5,495	298	233	19	470
Copper, Sheets and Nails - „	2,823	3,803	3,892	5,091	945	1,051	1,189	3,784

MAURITIUS.

Comparative Statement of Importations and Exportations, &c.—*continued.*

Articles.	Importations.				Exportations.			
	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.
Corn and Grain :—								
Barley - - Qrs.	178	—	66	45	—	27	—	—
Beans - - „	1,398	1,119	743	1,405	4	5	94	101
Dholl - - - Cwt.	49,338	52,391	42,274	51,248	1,677	3,923	759	3,848
Gram - - „	107,740	109,530	108,635	124,553	—	929	—	774
Maize - - - „	347	256	1,295	377	—	52	—	—
Wheat - - Qrs.	15,256	21,411	33,429	18,469	1,812	1,191	704	113
Wheaten Flour - Cwt.	25,692	11,132	10,029	1,934	6,575	621	8	87
Oats - - - Qrs.	13,820	8,580	13,302	17,238	126	—	3	14
Pease - - „	—	239	79	96	—	—	—	—
Rice - - - Cwt.	661,904	890,536	709,472	774,326	6,403	7,891	22,926	61,091
Cotton Manufactures :—								
Plain - - Yards	2,156,119	3,601,328	6,618,658	3,149,284	57,814	103,735	240,562	840,442
Coloured - - „	2,668,280	4,979,442	1,782,907	2,697,917	62,901	46,438	86,004	99,514
Fish :—								
Dried or Salted - Cwt.	19,604	21,264	24,938	21,132	1,995	509	340	36
Pickled Herrings - Bar.	626	209	995	1,308	—	—	10	—
Ditto - ½ „	186	274	317	15	—	—	—	—
Mackerel - - Bar.	300	1	137	300	—	—	—	—
Pickled - - ½ „	258	905	340	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto - - ¼ „	—	568	50	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto - - Kegs	363	513	779	—	—	—	—	—
Salmon - - Bar.	25	4	119	149	—	—	—	—
Hats : —								
Beaver - - No.	501	744	475	275	—	—	—	—
Felt - - - „	3,688	7,454	7,168	3,337	—	576	—	24
Silk - - - „	2,553	6,835	5,455	1,806	86	248	—	36
Solah - - „	376	543	108	—	—	—	—	—
Straw - - - „	74,650	85,151	104,240	72,045	18,443	4,435	806	1,100
Iron :—								
Bars and Sheets - Tons	631	533	786	470	—	1	15	4
Cast - - - Cwt.	197	209	329	149	—	20	—	—
Wrought Nails - „	2,046	2,362	3,416	3,089	20	23	14	28
Of all other Sorts - „	2,379	2,262	—	4,133	—	12	851	14
Lard - - - „	6,425	9,396	8,913	5,708	31	102	{ Cases 1,691 }	1,679½
Leather :—								
Unwrought - - „	907	835	557	1,346	—	4	1	20
Boots and Shoes - Pairs	61,559	119,610	113,042	61,495	1,322	839	602	—
Gloves - - Dz. do.	807	1,484	1,491	567	1	—	2	—
Saddlery and Harness £	2,346	1,020	3,576	—	44	9	—	—
Of all other Sorts - £	448	1,242	827	511	88	154	318	12
Linen Manufactures :—								
Plain - - Yards	19,384	53,984	37,391	26,624	—	—	—	124
Coloured - - „	19,384	5,744	144,124	5 848	—	—	—	—
Sail Cloth - - „	104,657	83,582	96,376	195,703	20,235	540	—	9,654
Machinery and Mill Works £	13,761	31,310	87,902	51,506	—	—	145	1,467
Manure, Guano - - Tons	10,980	5,972	12,196	25,702	185	348	119	89¼
Oils :—								
Castor - - Cwt.	362	521	352	700	40	33	14	41
Cocoanut - - Gal.	15,845	37,731	46,057	77,217	20,995	2,019	5,095	14,859
Gingelly - - Cwt.	1,452	1,626	1,660	3,077	16	9	—	21
Mustard - - „	5,640	1,843	6,619	2,969	—	—	—	6
Neat's-foot - - „	55	1,843	447	569	—	—	—	—
Olive - - - Gal.	7,378	10.230	14,187	8,115	16	80	62	184
Pork, Salted - - Cwt.	3,058	6,409	2,435	2,974	44	42	—	—
Soap - - - „	9,753	9,371	9,349	10,683	121	36	142	55
Spirits :—								
Brandy - - Gal.	10,674½	12,980	21,127	17,905	—	—	18	9,705
Geneva - - „	4,925	3,891	2,768	4,367	—	—	—	1,824
Rum - - - „	265	124	176	239	*30,392	*105,242	*131,220	331,285
Tea - - - Lbs.	11,851	45,849	51,784	39,982	1,658	2,616	—	3,486
Tobacco :—								
Unmanufactured - „	639,569	707,687	675,621	798,214	112	28	1,102	—
Manufactured - „	93,413	173,324	109,159	153,348	28	302	756	—
Segars - - „	20,847	20,103	27,393	41,198	833	1,479	4,372	20,818
Snuff - - - „	223	55	701	443	12	169	4,372	—
Umbrellas :—								
Cotton - - £	589	1,018	3,019	1,548	—	15	32	27
Silk - - - £	1,304	2,725	4,359	2,276	7	100	—	12
Wine :—								
Hogsheads - -	26,921	20,874	16,555	14,012	25	24	53	316
Half ditto - -	761	582	752	869	38	16	—	18
Quarter ditto -	247	355	194	279	1	8	—	3
Doz. Bottles - -	4,506	4,418	6,479	10,669	600	360	146	1,139
Woollen Manufactures :—								
Cloth - - - Yards	114,195	213,939	265,500	204,795	1,000	800	64	2,512
Blankets - - No.	20,296	15,808	20,422	15,187	200	125	—	—
Shawls - - „	7,246	12,792	23,204	8,030	—	4	10	—
Wood :—								
Planks and Boards. Run. Ft.	1,397,640	1,213,434	1,773,563	2,219,816	35,204	279,664	40,710	1,661
Shingles - - No.	222,500	169,400	130,000	332,630	—	—	—	—
Timber - - Cub. Ft.	2,222	8,648	3,332	62,956	—	—	—	—

* Produce of the colony.

Sub-Enclosure 2. in No. 27.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER and TONNAGE of VESSELS entered INWARDS at PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS, from 1842 to 1854.

YEARS.	BRITISH.		FOREIGN.		BRITISH.		FOREIGN.		BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
	GREAT BRITAIN.				FRANCE.				REUNION.			
1842 -	73	21,225	—	—	30	7,898	21	5,660	22	2,493	16	2,022
1843 -	59	17,837	—	—	30	8,108	8	2,334	17	1,600	11	2,612
1844 -	58	15,606	—	—	36	9,403	17	4,912	20	2,133	5	529
1845 -	70	21,745	—	—	28	7,385	27	8,151	23	1,955	10	2,699
1846 -	70	23,469	—	—	28	7,605	17	5,461	30	2,593	7	960
1847 -	65	22,859	—	—	34	8,990	17	5,343	24	1,914	16	866
1848 -	68	23,366	—	—	28	7,409	15	4,344	15	909	22	1,993
1849 -	63	21,045	—	—	28	7,441	10	3,100	20	1,087	29	2,752
1850 -	49	17,458	—	—	31	7,654	28	8,482	5	700	25	3,918
1851 -	59	19,737	—	—	20	5,834	47	15,645	5	522	30	3,251
1852 -	61	27,228	1	414	13	3,420	50	15,846	—	—	20	2,358
1853 -	78	36,615	—	—	1	300	63	19,014	3	266	26	1,062
1854 -	63	29,347	2	317	—	—	61	20,971	3	65	33	3,283
	B. C. INDIA.				AUSTRALIA.				CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.			
1842 -	54	19,293	2	607	13	2,047	—	—	25	5,172	—	—
1843 -	175	84,351	2	678	17	3,835	—	—	31	7,183	—	—
1844 -	109	47,843	—	—	14	2,617	—	—	30	6,034	—	—
1845 -	96	43,431	1	345	14	2,237	—	—	52	10,533	—	—
1846 -	114	56,822	1	356	16	3,158	—	—	52	11,415	—	—
1847 -	104	50,842	—	—	27	4,851	—	—	44	10,049	—	—
1848 -	100	53,099	—	—	21	3,892	—	—	80	17,733	—	—
1849 -	89	45,406	—	—	24	5,195	—	—	55	11,097	—	—
1850 -	89	49,268	1	395	27	5,699	—	—	63	12,560	2	482
1851 -	86	41,496	19	6,364	26	5,721	—	—	55	12,114	—	—
1852 -	99	58,831	13	4,566	26	8,116	—	—	69	15,637	—	—
1853 -	102	66,274	9	4,062	43	10,774	2	465	67	17,302	—	—
1854 -	111	67,811	25	9,486	59	13,737	1	137	45	11,922	1	231
	MADAGASCAR.				OTHER PLACES.				TOTAL.			
1842 -	115	17,546	—	—	58	14,942	11	4,082	389	90,616	50	12,371
1843 -	86	12,876	—	—	55	14,852	12	3,510	470	150,142	33	8,534
1844 -	56	7,819	—	—	59	13,512	13	4,115	382	104,967	35	9,556
1845 -	48	7,326	—	—	59	12,537	9	3,074	390	107,269	47	14,269
1846 -	10	1,350	—	—	84	17,703	7	2,225	404	124,115	32	9,002
1847 -	8	1,075	—	—	73	12,854	7	2,412	379	113,434	40	8,621
1848 -	7	847	—	—	72	14,061	10	3,538	391	121,316	47	9,875
1849 -	18	2,278	—	—	73	14,504	7	2,782	370	108,653	46	8,634
1850 -	31	5,321	11	3,346	93	15,949	15	5,046	388	114,608	82	21,669
1851 -	36	5,996	11	2,049	94	20,867	20	6,774	381	112,207	127	34,083
1852 -	20	4,070	5	816	85	18,866	20	6,738	373	136,168	109	30,738
1853 -	13	2,191	6	867	72	16,100	43	13,192	379	149,822	149	38,662
1854 -	58	10,619	5	798	80	16,932	30	10,012	419	150,439	157	45,098

MAURITIUS.

Sub-Encl. 3. in No. 27.

Sub-Enclosure 3. in No. 27.

REPORT on the EPIDEMIC of SMALLPOX in MAURITIUS, in 1855-56.

FOR two years past this colony has been constantly threatened with the introduction of smallpox, through the large immigration from Calcutta and Madras, and more especially from the latter presidency, as all the Coolie ships infected with this disease, except one, have come from thence; while, on the other hand, all those in which cholera appeared during the passage have sailed from Calcutta, and not one from either Madras or Bombay.

During these two years, smallpox has existed almost constantly in the lazarette on Cooper's Island, in the harbour of Port Louis, there being sometimes twenty or thirty cases at one time. During this period nine Coolie ships arrived from India infected with smallpox, one of which was sent to land her people at Gabriel Island; but the numerous immigrants arrived in the other ships were lodged in quarantine in the lazarette on Cooper's Island.

On these occasions the disease extended itself more or less in the lazarette, but never was introduced into the colony until the month of August last, when a Creole mason named Jules, who was employed working on the new fortifications now being erected in the immediate vicinity of the lazarette, was found to be affected with smallpox.

There were cases of this disease in the lazarette at the time, but it has been found impossible to ascertain in what manner he contracted it. He himself asserts that he had no communication with the people inside the lazarette, but it is impossible to say how much credit can be given to his statement.

As soon as I received information of this man's being affected with smallpox, I proceeded to examine him, and found that it was a case of modified smallpox,—so much modified that all the pustules had receded, except a few on the cheeks. It was, nevertheless, evidently smallpox, and I immediately communicated the fact to the Government and to the Mayor of Port Louis.

The affected man was then sent to the lazarette for sequestration, as were, afterwards, several other persons on whom the disease appeared, and who either lived in the vicinity of Jules' family or had had communication with it. Among these were the two children of Jules, one of whom had the disease very slightly, while the other died of it in the severest confluent form.

It soon became evident that it was impossible to arrest the epidemic by the sequestration of affected persons, as they carefully concealed their illness, from the fear of being sent to the lazarette, and some of them fled to the country, from the same motive.

It being evident that an epidemic was now impending, the municipality of Port Louis, without loss of time, established a hospital for smallpox at Grand River, in a building belonging to the Government, which lent it for the purpose; and in this hospital have been received all the poor of Port Louis affected with smallpox for whom hospital treatment was required. The building above mentioned having been found insufficient for the number of patients, who at one time amounted to nearly 130, the municipality hired a house in the vicinity as a supplementary hospital.

Annexed is a return of the number of persons of the different classes of the population treated in this hospital for true and modified smallpox respectively, and of the result of these cases; but it is to be observed that in general only the worst cases were sent to the hospital.

The epidemic from the first was of a mild character, a large proportion of the cases occurring being so slight that no application was made for medical assistance; nevertheless the prevalence of the disease was so great that the mortality in Port Louis became very considerable, as is seen in the annexed tables.

As usual in this disease, the epidemic is of slow progress and long continuance, its extension being dependent almost entirely on contagion or personal proximity, and being consequently very slow in comparison with that of those diseases which are propagated by atmospheric agency. In Europe, an epidemic of smallpox generally continues for twelve or thirteen months. This epidemic began, as above mentioned, in August, and increased until January, when it attained its maximum in Port Louis, and since then it has been slowly declining.

The first fatal case was in September, and the mortality during the first six months was in Port Louis as follows:—

In September	1855	1
In October	„	11
In November	„	74
In December	„	175
In January	1856	234
In February	„	98

This has been the progress of the epidemic in Port Louis, so far as it is indicated by the mortality attending it. The extent of the mortality in the whole island is exhibited in the following tables, in one of which is shown the mortality of different classes of the population in the respective districts up to the end of 1855, and in the other the same mortality from 1st January 1856 to the 10th instant.

From the returns it appears that the mortality in the country districts has been much less than might reasonably have been expected, and, in fact, has not been considerable in

any of them, excepting that of Pamplemousses, in which it amounts to 115. The vast difference between an epidemic of smallpox and one of cholera is thus strongly exemplified, as well as the great benefits conferred by vaccination.

In Port Louis the mortality has been, in proportion to population, much greater from this disease, as well as from cholera, than in the other districts. This is to be expected in a locality where, in a tropical climate, upwards of 50,000 people are congregated together, and where the sanitary condition of many parts of the town, particularly the suburbs, is unfavourable. This disease also, being propagated by contagion, is of course most prevalent where it meets with the largest number of persons collected in the smallest space.

RETURN of DEATHS from SMALLPOX in the several Districts of the Island, from the Outbreak of the Epidemic to 31st December 1855.

DISTRICTS.	General Population.				Ex-Apprentice Population.				Indian Population.			
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Port Louis	32	23	19	24	50	24	13	19	46	6	3	2
Pamplemousses	2	1	1	–	6	9	–	–	3	1	–	–
Rivière du Rempart	–	–	–	–	2	2	–	1	1	–	–	–
Flacq	1	1	–	–	2	2	–	1	–	–	–	–
Grand Port	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Savanne	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Black River	–	–	–	–	2	1	–	–	1	–	–	–
Plaines Wilhems	–	–	–	–	4	1	–	–	1	–	–	–
Moka	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Totals	35	25	20	24	67	39	13	21	52	7	3	2

RETURN of DEATHS from SMALLPOX in the several Districts of the Island, from 1st January to 10th May 1856.

DISTRICTS.	General Population.				Ex-Apprentice Population.				Indian Population.			
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Port Louis	56	25	44	46	71	31	49	35	51	9	3	6
Pamplemousses	5	4	–	4	29	8	6	5	25	4	2	–
Rivière du Rempart	–	–	–	–	6	6	3	3	4	–	–	–
Flacq	6	2	–	–	26	7	6	2	6	–	1	–
Grand Port	–	1	–	1	6	2	–	–	2	–	–	–
Savanne	–	–	–	–	2	1	–	–	1	–	–	1
Black River	1	–	1	–	10	6	1	1	6	–	–	–
Plaines Wilhems	2	–	–	–	19	3	4	2	2	–	2	2
Moka	–	4	2	–	13	4	–	2	3	1	–	1
Totals	70	36	47	51	182	68	69	50	100	14	8	10

RETURN of PATIENTS treated in the SPECIAL SMALLPOX HOSPITAL, from 8th September 1855 to 20th May 1856.

	Admitted.		Discharged.		Died.	
	True.	Modified.	True.	Modified.	True.	Modified.
Europeans and white Creoles	11	10	7	10	4	—
Coloured population	126	28	64	28	63	—
Indian immigrants	185	82	120	81	65	—
Total	322	120	191	119	132	—

(Signed) GEO. CLERIHEW, M.D.,
Chief Medical Officer.

MAURITIUS.

Sub-Encl. 4. in No. 27.

Sub-Enclosure 4. in No. 27.

REPORT on ROYAL COLLEGE for 1855.

IN submitting the Report on the Royal College for the session ending December 1855, I have first of all to express my special gratification at the zeal, ability, and success with which the professors have laboured to develop the intellectual and moral faculties of the pupils entrusted to their care. I have also to record, with pleasure, that the conduct and deportment of the scholars were generally satisfactory, not a single *serious* case of breach of discipline or of immorality having occurred throughout the year.

1. With regard to the department of *English*, which claims the first rank in importance, it has been our earnest desire to instil into the minds of pupils a still more sound and accurate knowledge than that which they have hitherto imbibed. The best interests of the colony, not less than those of the youth entrusted to our care, imperatively demand our attention to this object. The language of the Colonial Council, of the Colonial Courts, and of the Metropolitan State, ought not to be imperfectly known to the colonial youth. With a view to attain this object, we have endeavoured to bring under the notice of the students models of pure, sound, and simple style, by proposing weekly, in the higher classes, subjects for essays involving *readings* in the principal English classic prose writers. And as no one can be said to know anything of a language the rhythm of which is not familiar to his ears, all classes sufficiently advanced were obliged to repeat by heart passages from the poets; and in order to encourage correct pronunciation prizes were contended for in recitation by all the classes respectively. Besides which, in the highest class, analyses were made weekly of Shakspeare's plays, with the help of the best criticisms in the English language; and I may add that the use of a good library in the College, which has for some time been opened to the students of the higher classes, has been productive of the most excellent results, in affording facilities to diligent students in the prosecution of these and other studies. The highest class of English consisted of only ten students; the smallness of this number, however, is accounted for by the facts, that the majority of boys being designed for active employment in the colony, are withdrawn as soon as their education suffices for commercial, agricultural, or industrial purposes; the number of pupils designed for the learned professions being, of course, in a small colony like this, necessarily limited, and confined, indeed, only to such as intend to prosecute professional studies in England and France.

The essays composed by the pupils of the highest class were considered by the examiners to be highly creditable, evincing a fair acquaintance with English literature, while the language employed, though occasionally impregnated with the French idiom, showed a knowledge of the general principles of composition, and of the grammatical structure of the languages.

The junior classes in this branch are now becoming numerous, and composed, for the most part, of very young boys—a circumstance which shows plainly that the public appreciate the benefits to be derived from initiating their children, at an early age, in the pronunciation and use of English.

2. In *Classics*, the progress made by the pupils in the last session was, on the whole, as satisfactory as could be expected, under the difficulties which must for some time exist. These difficulties arise from various causes, of which the chief seems to be the shortness of time which it is possible to devote to instruction in this, consistently with affording due attention to other equally important subjects of instruction. This remark applies with peculiar force, as the position of the colony renders it absolutely necessary to maintain the two languages, English and French, in perfect efficiency, as means of communication, the consequence being that pupils are required to attend a corresponding greater number of classes daily.

The authors read in the highest class were Homer, Xenophon, Horace, and Livy.

3. The arrangement of the *French Classes* was not materially altered from that of former years. Classes which had been organized in the preceding year, of what is here technically called Version, viz., translations from English into French, were continued, and I have no doubt were of great practical use in familiarizing the students with the different idioms of expression in French and English.

In the classes of *French Literature and Rhetoric* the subjects for examination were—"A "History of Classical Literature, so far as it is connected with the History of French "Literature," and "Leclerc's Rhetoric." The answering of the pupils was considered to be generally satisfactory.

4. As to *Mathematics*. Taking into consideration the many topics of instruction which it is necessary to carry on simultaneously, to which allusion has already been made, I am warranted in stating that the instruction in this department was generally efficient. The pupils of the highest class were found qualified to enter upon the "Elements of Differential and Integral Calculus," and the result of the examination throughout all the classes proved that no exertions had been spared by each professor to advance his pupils as far as their abilities or previous good training would admit.

Classes of *Natural Philosophy* and of *Practical Geometry* were open to students who wished to avail themselves of instruction in these branches, and were well attended.

5. *Logic.* Although this subject is of a rather dry and unattractive nature to most pupils of the age of those who, generally speaking, constitute the senior classes in the College, yet, from the mental discipline it affords, independently of its intrinsic value, it is considered highly expedient to persevere in promoting a knowledge of it.

A very fair amount of progress was obtained during the session; and at the public examinations the examiner, the Lord Bishop of Mauritius, expressed himself as particularly pleased with the proficiency and intelligence shown by the pupils of the class.

6. Under the auspices and by the express desire of His Excellency the Governor, a class of *Natural History*, to be followed by one of *Agricultural Chemistry*, was formed at the commencement of the session, and is likely to be of very great service in promoting a knowledge of these two branches of service, so essentially important to the youth of this colony.

7. The most gratifying part of this report is to record the success that has attended the Royal College pupils, either in their subsequent career in Europe or in the practical business of life. Many of those who only a few years ago were *alumni* of the College are now distinguishing themselves in professional capacities in the colony. I may cite Mr. Jules Colin, who is attaining to eminence as a barrister, Messrs. E. Colin, Lolliot, Fressanges, Tourrette, Dupuy, and Beaugeard, who are in deserved repute for professional skill as physicians.

The distinctions lately gained by our pupils in England are of a high order. Instance Mr. Allas, who, after completing his studies with eminent success and distinction, received the important appointment of Midwifery Assistant to St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Mr. V. Baziere, who obtained the gold medal for midwifery, and the silver medal for pathological anatomy, in the London University; and Mr. Brunet, who obtained a prize at an examination in the department of law.

These successes achieved by our late pupils cannot but afford sincere pleasure to all well-wishers of this institution, and must be peculiarly gratifying to those societies and gentlemen who for several years have encouraged talent and industry, by causing medals and prizes to be presented to the most distinguished pupils of certain classes.

8. The distribution of prizes took place on the 13th December, the Governor presiding. The following prizes and rewards may be enumerated:—

Natural Philosophy—" George Mayer" and " Horace Beaugeard."
Natural Sciences—" Pellereau" and " Cox."
Prize given by C. C. Brownrigg, Esquire, for the best answering in Greek and Latin Grammar—" Pellereau."
Logic—" George Mayer."
Gold medal given by the " Loge de la Triple Espérance" for French Grammar—" Bonnemaison."
Gold and silver medals given by the " Royal Society of Arts and Sciences" for Natural Sciences—" Pellereau" and " Bonnemaison."
Government gold and silver medals for English—" Laconforque" and " Perrot."
Prize of superiority—" George Mayer."

On this occasion His Excellency the Governor selected two pupils (instead of one as formerly) to be sent to England to prosecute professional studies—" George Mayer" and " Horace Beaugeard." The announcement of this gave great and universal satisfaction.

Annexed is a detail of number of pupils, amount of income and expenditure, and comparison of 1855 with former years.

(Signed) Joseph Deas, Rector.

Royal College, Mauritius, 21st July 1856.

MAURITIUS.

ROYAL COLLEGE, 1855.

DETAIL of INCOME and EXPENDITURE, including EXPENSES of GOVERNMENT PUPILS and SCHOLARSHIPS in ENGLAND.

	Amount of School Fees, as per Return to Internal Revenue Office.	No. of Pupils.				Expenditure.			
		Paying.	Government.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Salaries, Fixed and Temporary.	Office Contingencies.	Service, exclusive, &c.	Total.
	£ s. d.					£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
January - -	198 15 8	229	30	18	277	374 12 10	- - -	- - -	374 12 10
February - -	233 8 8	240	30	18	288	332 18 8	- - -	- - -	332 18 8
March - -	211 2 4	240	30	18	288	324 18 8	4 0 6	13 6 8	342 5 10
April - -	199 18 0	220	30	18	268	324 18 8	- - -	- - -	324 18 8
May - -	209 17 4	211	30	18	259	324 18 8	- - -	- - -	324 18 8
June - -	216 16 0	240	30	18	288	324 18 8	2 12 0	4 10 0	332 0 8
July - -	223 14 8	248	30	18	296	324 18 8	- - -	- - -	324 18 8
August - -	223 0 0	243	30	18	291	324 18 8	- - -	- - -	324 18 8
September -	223 0 4	243	30	18	291	324 18 8	3 8 0	4 10 0	332 16 8
October - -	215 9 4	244	30	18	292	324 18 8	- - -	- - -	324 18 8
November -	213 8 8	240	30	18	288	324 18 8	- - -	- - -	324 18 8
December -	218 17 0	230	30	18	278	324 18 8	7 16 2	131 17 3	464 12 1
£	2,587 8 0	Average -			284	3,956 18 2	17 6 8	154 3 11	4,128 18 9

COMPARISON with former Years.

	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Amount of fees - - -	3,054 12 4	2,950 5 4	2,892 9 8	2,587 8 0
Average number of pupils - -	276	328	296	284
Expenditure, Salaries - - -	3,451 10 2	3,691 4 0	3,662 3 2	3,956 18 2
„ Office contingencies -	24 13 4	14 4 0	26 3 7	17 16 8
„ Service, exclusive, &c. -	134 6 8	21 0 10	166 11 11	154 3 11
TOTAL - £	3,610 10 2	3,726 8 10	3,854 18 8	4,128 18 9

(Signed) JOSEPH DEAS,
Rector of the Royal College.

Sub-Encl. 5. in No. 27.

Sub-Enclosure 5. in No. 27.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
November 1855.

SIR,

1. THE Government is endeavouring to infuse more life and activity into the working of the Government Schools, to increase their general usefulness, and to make them more popular and attractive to those for whose benefit they have been established, than the present extent or regularity of attendance at those schools would seem to indicate.

2. His Excellency the Governor conceives that greater sympathy and support from the resident clergy and gentry would materially contribute to the attainment of those highly desirable objects; and it is with this view it is proposed to appoint visitors in each district, whose duty it will be to visit the schools, to examine from time to time into the progress made by the pupils and the general management of the schools, and to report, for the information of Government, any deficiencies considered by them to require amendment, or any instances of unusual merit on the part of either teachers or scholars, deserving the marked approbation of the Government.

3. His Excellency, trusting that you will readily afford him the benefit of your influence and co-operation in extending the moral and material blessings of education amongst the labouring classes in your district, is pleased to nominate you to be a visitor of the Government school situate at

I have, &c.
(Signed)
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Sub-Enclosure 6. in No. 27.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of CRIMES and OFFENCES Prosecuted and Convicted before the SUPREME COURT in 1854 and 1855.

	1854.										1855.									
	No. of Cases.	Classification of Prisoners.						Total Number of Prisoners.			No. of Cases.	Classification of Prisoners.						Total Number of Prisoners.		
		Ex-Apprentices.		Indians.		Others.						Ex-Apprentices.		Indians.		Others.				
		Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Sentenced.	Acquitted.	Total.		Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Sentenced.	Aquitted.	Total.
Crimes and Offences against Individuals :																				
Murder and attempt at murder	10	2	–	20	–	1	–	17	6	23	6	1	–	8	–	–	–	6	3	9
Poisoning	1	–	–	2	–	–	–	2	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Manslaughter	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	1	2	–	–	2	–	–	–	2	–	2
Wounds and blows	6	–	–	5	–	1	–	5	1	6	14	3	–	34	2	2	–	34	7	41*
Rape and attempt at rape	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	2	4	2	–	2	–	–	–	4	–	4
Unnatural crimes	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	1	2	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
Abduction of minors	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Perjury	6	4	1	–	–	1	–	2	4	6	2	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	2	2
Unlawful arrest	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	2	–	1	–	4	–	5	2	7
Total	27	8	1	29	–	3	–	29	12	41	34	8	–	49	2	8	–	51	16	67
Crimes against Property :																				
Larceny	4	10	–	1	–	–	–	10	1	11	6	2	–	8	1	1	–	7	5	12
Cheating and embezzlement	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	4	1	–	–	–	1	–	1	1	2
Arson	6	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	6	6	8	1	–	10	–	1	–	5	7	12
Violation of tombs	1	3	1	–	–	–	–	1	3	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Forgery	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	2	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	1
Coining	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Extortion by public functionaries	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
GRAND TOTAL	41	24	2	36	–	3	–	40	25	65	53	12	–	67	3	12	–	65	29	94

* In this number is comprised a case of rebellion and assault on two police by a band of 21 Indians.

(Signed) SHOLTO JAMES DOUGLAS,
Acting Procureur and Advocate General,
&c. &c. &c.

SEYCHELLES.

SEYCHELLES.

No. 28.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HIGGINSON to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 141.) Mauritius, August 14, 1856.
Received October 18, 1856.

SIR,

I NOW beg leave to forward the report of the Civil Commissioner of the Seychelles on the condition and prospects of those dependencies, to which I made reference in transmitting the Blue Book of the colony for the past year, but which was not received in time to accompany that document. Enclosure 1.

2. Although there unquestionably remains much to be done to place the people of the Seychelles on the prosperous footing enjoyed by their more favoured countrymen here, it will be gratifying to Her Majesty's Government to learn from the Civil Commissioner's report, that in some important respects progress is being gradually made.

SEYCHELLES.

3. The revenue has within the last three years considerably increased, owing to certain fiscal measures introduced; and as there has been no corresponding increase of expenditure, the cost to Mauritius for the maintenance of these Islands has "pro tanto" been diminished. The expenditure amounts annually to about 4,000*l.*, whilst the revenue little exceeds the half of that amount. The Customs duties levied at Mauritius on goods consumed in the Seychelles, and with which the dependency might be fairly credited, are estimated by the Civil Commissioner at 1,635*l.*; but it will be seen by the enclosed letter from the Collector of Customs here, that there are no means of ascertaining their precise amount.

Enclosure 2.

4. The social and moral condition of the people has improved. The animosity and dissensions, which have so long divided the white and coloured inhabitants, are mitigated, and owing to the pious labours of the new Protestant Chaplain, and to the zeal and activity of the Capuchin Friars who have been sent from Rome, the conduct and observances enjoined by the Christian religion are more generally conformed to, whilst the commission of serious crime is of most rare occurrence, although, I apprehend, petty larcenies and other misdemeanors are by no means uncommon.

5. The means of education, as pointed out by the Civil Commissioner, are not yet adequately supplied, nor are its advantages, I fear, sufficiently appreciated; but there seems reason to expect that the school at Mahé, maintained by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, will enlarge its sphere of usefulness under the direction of the Reverend Doctor Fallet, and I propose to extend to the Seychelles the provisions of the Ordinance lately passed here, empowering the Government to make "grants in aid" for the encouragement of secular learning; and which, if availed of, are, I think, better adapted to their requirements than the system in operation here, under the direct agency of the Government.

6. In regard to material prosperity, I am of opinion, that the plantation and manipulation of cocoa nuts offer the best prospects of remunerative returns, being best suited to the capabilities of the Islands, and to the limited resources of their inhabitants, requiring less capital and labour than other branches of agricultural industry, and Mauritius presenting a ready and convenient market for their produce, and it is satisfactory to find that these plantations have considerably increased.

7. I do not, however, pretend to say, that if the interior of the Islands were rendered less inaccessible by the construction of roads, rice and other articles might not be cultivated for exportation, and the Civil Commissioner proposes, that the increase in the revenue reported by him should be applied to this purpose, to be ultimately recovered by the proceeds of a land tax. But seeing reason to anticipate objections here to such appropriation, and there to the method indicated for recovering the advances, I question the feasibility of carrying out this scheme, and I have therefore again suggested the adoption of Statute Labour in lieu thereof, on a plan (so far as circumstances will permit) similar to that which has worked so satisfactorily in Ceylon, and by which the few roads required might be gradually completed.

8. The Civil Commissioner, in conclusion, recommends that pecuniary assistance should be granted by Mauritius, as the only effectual means of extricating the Seychelles from the poverty and distress in which they have been so long plunged; but without explaining in what manner such funds are to be applied, which, however, I apprehend it would be as difficult to arrange to the mutual satisfaction of all the interests concerned as it would be hopeless to expect that the Council of Government would willingly consent to vote the money, seeing that they have repeatedly complained of the weight and hardship of the burden already imposed on them, by being charged with the cost of maintaining dependencies 1,000 miles distant, and from which the colony derives no advantage whatever.

9. We must, I conceive, rely on other measures for the regeneration of the Seychelles, to the decadence of which their remote and isolated position has so largely conduced, and this serious evil, the rapid and regular communication which will be afforded by the postal steamers about to run between Mauritius and Aden, will do much to remove.

10. It is undeniable that the existing dearth of capital forms a great impediment to improvement; but the deplorable want of steady industry, and

self-reliance, that prevails in the Seychelles, contribute largely to the same unhappy result. If, as is supposed, these Islands do really offer an opening for the investment of capital, a more intimate acquaintance with their capabilities will tend to the promotion of this important object; and may in the end lead to the substitution of solvent and enterprising proprietors, for those who possess neither the means nor the energy to overcome the obstacles to the profitable development of the resources of their estates. I do not underrate the individual sacrifices and suffering inseparable from such transfer of property, but I believe that no other equally efficacious remedy will be found to ameliorate the general condition of this impoverished and helpless community.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. HIGGINSON.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1. in No. 28.

Encl. 1. in No. 28.

SIR, Port Louis, July 21, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to forward the report upon the condition and prospects of the Seychelles Islands, which your Excellency wishes should accompany the annual Blue Book.

I have already reported to your Excellency upon the comparative great increase to the revenue derived by extending to those Islands the following Ordinances:—No. 18 of 1841 on Fisheries; 27 of 1845 and 49 of 1848 on Licences; 26 and 27 of 1853 on Distilleries, the first three by proclamation, dated 5th June 1852, but which can hardly be said to have come into force till the 1st January 1853.

The total revenue collected by me for the years 1853, 1854, and 1855 exceeds that collected in the three previous by 2,538*l.* 13*s.* 9¼*d.*, or an average annual increase of 846*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, the amount of the former being 6,495*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*, and the latter 3,955*l.* 17*s.* 8¾*d.* It is, however, to be lamented that some means cannot be devised for still further increasing the revenue of the Islands, which in their present impoverished condition seems to me impossible. I cannot, however, concur in the general supposition, that this dependency is a great expense to the colony, as it must be borne in mind that, having no direct trade with other countries, the whole of its export and import duties are paid at Mauritius, and which must amount to a very considerable sum annually. I cannot for want of official documents state exactly the actual cost of Government for the salaries of the public establishments at Seychelles, but I imagine I am not far wrong in estimating it at 3,800*l.* a year, to meet which the average revenue for the last three years has been 2,164*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*, leaving a deficit of 1,635*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*, which I imagine is more than covered by Custom dues.

I am happy to report that there exists little, I may say no, serious crime in the dependency, and that the strong inclination for litigation which existed amongst the inhabitants has perceptibly diminished, and there now exists a very far better feeling between the white and the coloured population.

On the subject of education I would request most respectfully to call your Excellency's attention.

Your Excellency is aware there has existed for some years back a boy and girls' school at Victoria Town, kept up at the sole expense of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, but which is but thinly attended, the present number of scholars being altogether about 60, and nearly the whole of these are children of the ex-apprentices, and of so young an age as not to be capable of gaining much advantage, their parents taking them away so soon as they are strong enough to do a little work. However, through the exertions of the new Minister, the Reverend Dr. Fallet, under whose entire management I have placed them, and who, from his great practical knowledge, has already wrought some beneficial changes in the manner of conducting them, I hope for great improvement, but your Excellency will perceive that this is but a very inadequate means for educating the whole of the children of these Islands. This is much to be regretted, and especially that of the total want of means for instructing the children of the better classes, who are now grown or growing up in ignorance of the very first rudiments. Mr Collie, a Scotchman and a resident for many years at Seychelles, kept a school for a long time, and it is to him principally those who have received any instruction owe their education, and it is from these scholars the Government have been hitherto able most efficiently to fill up the situations of clerk for the Customs and Internal Revenue Department, but he was obliged to give it up, the parents being no longer able to pay for the children's education.

I have much gratification in reporting to your Excellency that some improvement has taken place in the moral condition of the population since the arrival of the Rev. Dr. Fallet; very many christenings and marriages have taken place, many of the latter being couples who had lived for years in open adultery.

The Capuchin Friars are likewise exerting themselves, and I trust are doing good. It is their intention, as your Excellency is aware, to introduce Sisters of Charity into the

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dependency, under your Excellency's sanction, and it is to be hoped with beneficial results.

Unhappily there exists no Protestant church in the dependency, and the service is performed in a private dwelling hired for the purpose, at an annual rent of 48*l.* A subscription was raised by my predecessor, Mr. Keate, for building a church, who caused a chapel to be built on the Island of Praslin, 23 miles from Mahé, and which has never been consecrated to the present day; but whether the expense of doing this was defrayed by him I am not prepared to say. This want is much to be regretted, more especially as the Roman Catholic population have purchased a property in Victoria Town, and built a chapel and a residence for their Priest, besides establishing chapels in various parts of the Island of Mahé, and on one of the smaller Islands.

On the subject of agriculture your Excellency will be gratified to learn that, during the last three years, the proprietors have considerably extended their cocoa-nut plantations; one gentleman alone has planted 50,000, which in about three years more ought to bring in a considerable income; but this brings me to the subject of devising the best method to be adopted for encouraging agriculture, and the putting down of vagrancy, a point which has already been so ably reported upon by my predecessor, Mr. Keate. His highly interesting report I have studied attentively, and regret it has been found impracticable to carry out the valuable suggestions it contains, and which has chiefly arisen from the want of capital; for after the Imperial Government, at the earnest petition of the proprietors, sanctioned the introduction of immigrants, not one of them could avail themselves of it.

Want of labour is the main cause of the misery that exists, and to supply this I have lent my most earnest attention. The population of Seychelles is about the same that it was thirty years ago, when the Islands were in prosperous condition, so that it would appear there are hands enough if they would but work, which they wont, so long as that ruinous system exists of proprietors allowing the ex-apprentices to squat on their lands, on the promise of giving them half their labour, that is to say, working one week for the landowner and one for themselves.

Nearly all these squatters live in the interior some distance from the shore (and from their masters' houses, which are all close to the sea), on land which, from local and other causes, is now not cultivated, these squatters barely growing sufficient manioc and sweet potatoes for their own consumption.

Last year I made excursions on foot over nearly every part of the Island of Mahé, and I was struck by the quantity of fine land lying waste, which had evidently from its appearance been cultivated in the time of slavery; there are likewise forests of excellent timber called "Capucin," which I am told is one of the most durable kinds known. Nearly the whole of these belong to Government, and are falling daily and rotting on the ground for want of means of transport; this directed my attention to the want of roads, which I am of opinion could be made at no very great expense.

Roads and navigable rivers are the arteries without one or other of which no country can flourish, and it will be for your Excellency to determine whether the results I anticipate are equivalent to the necessary outlay, if a law was passed obliging every male inhabitant between a certain age, say 15 and 60, to furnish so many days' labour in the year; all that would be necessary could be, I should say, finished in four years at a cost for overseers and implements of 4,000*l.*, which would be 153*l.* 15*s.* 6½*d.* more than the annual average accrued by the additional taxation now established. At the end of this period a land tax might be levied to recover the expenses, which, if the present proprietors were unwilling to pay, they could easily dispose of that part of the land at least which is now lying idle to Mauritian capitalists, to whom the richness of the soil would by that time be exposed, but which they are at present ignorant of, owing to, I might almost say, the impracticability of access.

Sufficient rice alone of the best quality, far superior to that now brought from India, and fetching a higher price in the market, might be grown in Mahè for the consumption of half the Indian population of Mauritius. The great advantage I anticipate in advocating the measure is the putting into cultivation waste land which at present would be ruin for any one to attempt for want of labour and carriage. Squatters who are now hid in the jungles would be hunted up, and by the levying of a land tax made to work; horses and mules, which thrive admirably, but are now useless, might be introduced, and would materially assist the manual labour, and render the introduction of immigrants unnecessary.

I have thought over attentively the condition these Islands have been in for so many years, and I have come to the conclusion they can never rise and cease to be a burden to the colony without pecuniary assistance, which ought to be granted, now that the colony is in so flourishing a state.

Should your Excellency deem these remarks worthy of notice, I shall endeavour to furnish any further information your Excellency may require, and give my best attention to any instructions your Excelleney may honour me with.

I have, &c.

(Signed) Geo. Wade,
Civil Commissioner.

STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE annually incurred on account of Seychelles during the last Three Years.

	1853.			1854.			1855.		
ESTABLISHMENTS:									
Salaries.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Civil commissioner	600	0	0	600	0	0	600	0	0
Customs clerk	96	0	0	96	0	0	96	0	0
Magistrate	500	0	0	500	0	0	500	0	0
Clerk	200	0	0	200	0	0	200	0	0
Messenger	20	0	0	20	0	0	20	0	0
Chaplain	300	0	0	300	0	0	300	0	0
Health officer	150	0	0	150	0	0	250	0	0
Dispenser	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	0	0
Police inspector	200	0	0	200	0	0	200	0	0
Serjeant major	72	0	0	72	0	0	72	0	0
Serjeants, two at 60*l.* each	120	0	0	120	0	0	120	0	0
Constables, (1st class, 5 at 48*l.* each; 2d class, 8 at 43*l.* 4*s.* each; 3d class, 5 at 33*l.* 12*s.* each)	753	12	0	753	12	0	753	12	0
Gaoler	33	12	0	33	12	0	33	12	0
Assistant gaoler	28	16	0	28	16	0	28	16	0
Inspector of distilleries, 3, 1 at 96*l.* and 2 at 72*l.* each	240	0	0	240	0	0	240	0	0
ALLOWANCES:									
Civil commissioner for office establishment	168	0	0	168	0	0	168	0	0
„ „ house rent	144	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
„ „ boat	120	0	0	120	0	0	120	0	0
„ „ stationery	24	0	0	24	0	0	24	0	0
Police inspector for stationery	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
Vaccinator 4*s.* for each vaccination	50	0	0	50	0	0	50	0	0
CONTINGENCIES:									
Stationery to magistrate	20	0	0	20	0	0	20	0	0
Furniture, petty supplies, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	0	0
Total establishment	3,842	0	0	3,698	0	0	3,854	0	0
SERVICE, EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENT:									
Administration of Justice.									
Compensation to medical men, witnesses, &c.	15	15	0	26	4	0	25	12	9
Hospitals	17	3	8	9	0	0	18	0	0
Police and gaols	152	8	9	257	0	9	99	0	0
Rent	136	0	0	92	0	0	-	-	-
Transport	95	0	0	256	17	4	60	18	0
WORK AND BUILDINGS:									
Residence of Civil Commissioner (repairs)	771	12	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies for repairs to Government buildings	9	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repairs to sea wall	12	0	0	15	4	0	-	-	-
Purchase of M. Delorie's property	-	-	-	900	0	0	-	-	-
Repairing Seychelles prisons	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	19	2
Total work and buildings	792	14	9	915	4	0	32	19	2
ROADS, STREETS, AND BRIDGES:									
Roads to Port Victoria	97	18	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seychelles Road	-	-	-	42	2	0	-	-	-
Seychelles bridge from Royal Street to Civil Commissioner's residence	-	-	-	47	0	0	-	-	-
Total roads, streets, &c.	97	18	2	89	2	0	-	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS:									
Flags &c.	1	9	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	5,150	10	0	5,343	8	7	4,090	9	11

4th August 1856.

(Signed) W. R. R. KERR,
Auditor General.

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MEMO.

SUMS estimated for in the Budget but which I believe have not been paid.

	£	s.	d.
Chaplain absent for two years, allowed half salary for one, 450*l.*, pay of lay teacher deducted from this amount of that period, 144*l.*	360	0	0
Police Inspector's salary for 1853, and half of 1854, at 120*l.* per annum	120	0	0
Do. half of 1854 and the whole of 1855, at 150*l.* per annum	75	0	0
House rent for one month, 10*l.* 12*s.*	133	8	0
No children vaccinated in 1853, nor about for a month in 1855, there being no doctor	66	0	0
Doctor's half salary for 1853	75	0	0
Do. whole salary for four months. 1855	83	6	8
No rent paid for gaol in 1853–54 the Delories property being bought	228	0	0
	1,086	14	8

There likewise are other sums noted on the other side of this which I do not consider ought to be placed under the head of annual expenses, (viz.) 778*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* for repair of Commissioner's residence and 900*l.* for purchase of Delories property.

The under-mentioned sums refer to work performed previous to my arrival in Seychelles, *i. e.* in 1852:—

	£	s.	d.
Repair of sea walls	27	4	0
Roads of Port Victoria	97	18	0
Seychelles Road	42	2	0
Bridge from Royal Street to Commissioner's residence	47	0	0
	214	4	0

(Signed) GEO. WADE,
Civil Commissioner.

Enclosure 2. in No. 28.

(No. 59.) Custom House, Port Louis, Mauritius,
August 19, 1856.

SIR,

WITH reference to your letter of the 29th ultimo, requesting me to state the amount of import duties which I conceive has been collected here on goods shipped during the last three years for Seychelles, and what amount of export duty has been received in the same period on the produce of Seychelles exported from this port, I beg you to inform his Excellency the Governor that as the trade between Port Louis and the dependencies of Mauritius is deemed a coasting trade, goods sent from hence to Seychelles are shipped by "Coast Sufferance," a document which contains an account of the number of packages and a description of the goods, so far as the same can be ascertained, but no declaration of the quantity and value of the articles is required. It is therefore quite out of my power to form any idea as to what amount of duty was received on such goods at the time of their importation here.

2. I find that two parcels of sugar, the produce of Seychelles, were brought to this port during the last three years; one of these parcels, consisting of 230 bags, was exported per "Cressida" for Cork on the 25th November 1853, and export duty amounting to 4*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* levied thereon; the other parcel, composed of 451 bags, if exported, must have been included in an outward entry along with some sugar the produce of the Island, as a separate entry for it cannot be found.

I have &c.,
(Signed) E. CARDEW,
Collector.

The Honourable
The Acting Colonial Secretary.

PART III.

AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS AND ST. HELENA.

SIERRA LEONE.

PART III.—AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS.

SIERRA LEONE.

No. 29.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Hill to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 107.)

Government House,
Sierra Leone, April 18, 1856.
(Received May 31, 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the duplicate of the Blue Book for the year 1855, prepared by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,
Governor.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

Explanatory Statement.

Taxes and Duties.

The taxes and duties are the same as in the previous year, and on this subject, as well as with respect to fees, so much has already been reported by the late Acting Governor as to render it unnecessary for me to offer any observations thereon.

Revenue.

There has not been any material difference in the gross amount of revenue for 1855, as compared with the previous year.

The increase has been in tonnage dues 675*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*, in light dues 43*l.* 14*s.* 0*d.*, in auction duties 30*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*, in land sales 70*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.*, in licences on spirits retailed 287*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*, in auctioneers' licences 50*l.*, in pilots' licences 2*l.*, in pew rents 10*l.* 15*s.* 0*d.*, in the house and land tax 38*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*, in forfeitures 4*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, in fees carried to public account 3*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.* The revenue also exhibits an apparent further increase, in consequence of the change which has taken place with the respect to the mode of remunerating the Harbour-master, that officer receiving a fixed salary of 250*l.* in lieu of fees, and the fees derived from his office, amounting during the past year to 293*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*, being carried to the public account under a separate head. The new hospital arrangement has also produced during the past year an income of 1,205*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* These various sources of local revenue together give an increase of 2,715*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* over the amount derived from the same sources during the previous year.

On the other hand, there has been a decrease in the amount of import duties of 2,808*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*, in boat licences 55*l.*, in rents 125*l.* 16*s.* 1½*d.*, in the horse and carriage tax 22*l.*, in fees from the police and sessional courts 103*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*, in the sale of government property 163*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*, in various miscellaneous receipts 202*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*, making a total of 3,480*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*

Expenditure.

The colonial funds having been made chargeable with the payment of certain salaries previously borne on the Parliamentary Grant, there has been an increase in the expenditure under the head of fixed salaries, amounting to 1,929*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*; the other items on which increased expenditure has been incurred during the year 1855 are, allowances 82*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, contingencies 96*l.* 11*s.* 10½*d.*, administration of justice 35*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*, sundry special services 264*l.* 1*s.* 6½*d.*, hospitals 482*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, works and buildings 2,090*l.* 7*s.* 2½*d.*, making a total of 4,981*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*

The comparative statement also exhibits a reduction in provisional and temporary salaries of 140*l.* 2*s.* 0*d.*, in pensions 2*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, in the department of

police and gaols 511*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*, in the conveyance of mails 2*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, in roads 25*l.* 6*s.* 0*d.*, in miscellaneous services 433*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.*, in payment of aborigines 391*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*, in drawbacks and refund of duties 67*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*, in remittances to the Agent General 368*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*, making a total of 1,041*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*

Public Debt.

This colony is happily not burdened with any public debt. There are several sums held in deposit, which are, however, entered under this head at pages 56 and 57 of the Blue Book. These amount in the aggregate to 1,962*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*, a considerable portion of which having been held without any claimant for upwards of twenty years, justifies the conclusion that it will never be called for. Several other sums, not held for so long a time, stand in the names of parties to whom there are not any known representatives.

Public Works.

The total expenditure on public works during the year amounts to 4,019*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*, in which is included the partial erection of a schoolroom, the building of solitary cells in the gaol yard, considerable progress in the erection and repairs of the wharf, the repairs of the public buildings generally, and draining the grass fields; the importance of this last-mentioned work cannot be over estimated in a sanitary point of view.

Legislation.

The two most important enactments during the year have been the ordinance for the instruction and registration of alien children, and the ordinance for amending the laws with respect to keeping in repair the roads and highways of the colony. The others have been nearly of an ordinary and routine character.

Miscellaneous.

Numerical Returns.

This Return exhibits an aggregate of 14,700 persons in a population of less than 45,000 liable to the payment of direct taxes, and it may be safely affirmed that the success which has attended the collection of the house and land tax, yielding an annual revenue of 3,000*l.* chiefly derived from persons of the humbler classes, is to be attributed to the respect for, and cheerful submission to law, which are the characteristics of this people. The paupers, who number throughout the colony 710, consist chiefly of old and worn out liberated Africans.

Ecclesiastical.

There can be no doubt that the Lord Bishop, as head of the clergy, and the missionaries of the Church of England, are exercising a great moral influence over the aboriginal tribes of Africa settled in this colony; neither are the Wesleyan missionaries behind-hand in this work. The Lord Bishop, as Colonial Chaplain, assisted by the Rev. Francis Pocock, officiates in the cathedral and parish church of St. George, which is attended chiefly by the European inhabitants. The converted natives, generally speaking, are in communion with one or other of the missionary establishments. There are several Independent congregations presided over by native ministers, of whose zeal, although it may not be always according to knowledge, there can be no doubt.

It is pleasing to observe the evidences of a catholic Christianity which pervades this community; ministers of the Church and Wesleyan bodies are seen mingling together in friendly harmony, and without losing their distinctiveness they would seem to enjoy the gratification of combining for the spread of truth, and in the promotion of benevolent objects.

Education.

It will be seen by the returns of schools that they are chiefly supported by the friends of the Church and Wesleyan missionary societies; they are, with the exception of the establishment at Fourah Bay, King Tom's, and the grammar school in Regent Square, of an elementary character. The local government

SIERRA LEONE.

supports one school in Freetown of a very humble description, and at a cost of about fifty pounds per annum.

Imports.

The imports during the past year have reached the aggregate amount of 114,910*l.*, being 4,000*l.* in advance of the previous year; this excess of imports is not inconsistent with the fact of a comparatively reduced revenue from imports, inasmuch as there are several articles which, under the new tariff, are liable to a specific duty without reference to value. It is worthy of remark that notwithstanding the various changes in the rate of duties, the imports have, during the past twenty years, undergone little or no change. This is to be attributed to the fact of the resident merchants "who have increased of late years," availing themselves of the advantages of the bonding warehouses, and a system of transhipment for the purpose of carrying on a trade beyond the limits of the colony, and from which the revenue derives no aid whatever.

Exports.

The exports during the past year reached the large amount of 170,547*l.*, being 16,000*l.* in advance of the previous year. The chief articles of African produce exported have been as follows:—

	1855.		1854.
Palm oil	£46,174	against	£33,234
Ground nuts	27,617	„	8,144
Timber	25,872	„	29,646
Hides	12,101	„	23,798
Camwood	7,330	„	8,441
Gold	6,627	„	8,515
Gum copal	6,433	„	5,837
Benni seed	5,758	„	1,770
Ginger	5,136	„	10,667
Cola nuts	3,493	„	1,056
Ivory	1,436	„	1,435
Vegetable fibres	8	„	5*s.*

Making a total of 157,985*l.* of the produce of the western coast of Africa during the year 1855, against 132,543*l.* 5*s.* in the previous year. The remainder is made up of British merchandise exported to places along the coast, chiefly foreign possessions under the dominion of native kings and chiefs.

It will be seen that palm oil stands at the head of the list, and that ground nuts occupy a very important place in the trade of Africa, and this becomes an interesting fact when it is considered that the ground nut trade is of very recent origin.

The colony is indebted for its export trade to the neighbouring settlements, ginger being the only article of which any quantity is obtained in the settlement itself; and it may be added that the large consumption of beef makes hides available to some extent as an item of local export.

Palm oil, timber, camwood, gum copal, ginger, gold, cola nuts, and vegetable fibres are for the most part consigned to mercantile houses in Great Britain; hides and ivory are chiefly sent to the United States of America; ground nuts and benni seeds to France.

Conclusion.

I venture to express my opinion that the condition of the colony warrants a belief in a satisfactory progress.

The new wharf which is now completed affords great accommodation to the merchants as well as the vessels of war; the trading canoes arriving from the neighbouring rivers average daily fifty in number; and I have no doubt when the new market house is erected, in which accommodation can be afforded to the native traders at a comparatively small expense, the trade of the colony will in this respect increase considerably.

If it were possible to reduce the import duties without injury to the revenue I am satisfied the result would be most beneficial, and Freetown probably become the entrepôt for the whole of the trade now carried on with the main

land, through means of the bonded warehouse system and transhipments, as the merchant would doubtless prefer the security of his own stores in a British colony to the risk he now runs of being plundered in the interior and without the jurisdiction of the Government; I am fully aware of the difficulty attending any change in so important a matter, but I have given the subject most serious attention, and I do not despair of being enabled ere long to submit for consideration a scheme embracing a reduction in the import duties without seriously affecting the Customs revenue.

I annex the Annual Report of the Colonial Surgeon, together with a comparative hospital return, and the yearly return of sick treated in the colonial hospital from 1st April 1855 to 31st March 1856.

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 29.

Encl. 1 in No. 29.

ANNUAL REPORT of Sick and Wounded treated in the COLONIAL HOSPITAL, FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE, from 1st April 1855 to 31st March 1856.

The total number of sick of all classes treated in this hospital "during the period embraced by this Return" is 543; 440 of this number were admitted, and the other 103 remained from last year. Of the number admitted 172 were British and foreign seamen, and the remaining portion liberated Africans and colonial poor. 398 were discharged cured, 70 died, and 75 remain under further treatment.

Of the number of deaths above enumerated 18 were only in hospital for a very short time, varying from two to thirty-six hours, and were brought in dying, and can scarcely be considered as under treatment at all. Several of these men I regret to add were merchant seamen brought to hospital from the rivers, upon some of whom it was deemed necessary to hold inquests, owing to the neglected manner they were sent in from their ships in the different rivers; the very debilitated state they were in rendering all treatment ineffective. Of the other cases the majority were found dying of want in the streets, and brought in that state to the hospital.

Taking into consideration the very many difficulties I had to encounter in forming and organising such an institution in a colony like this, and on a comparison with the results of the last five years as shown by the accompanying Return taken from the old books, I feel perfectly satisfied that the improvement on the former system is quite apparent, as a proper system of dietary is equally necessary as medicine for the treatment of disease. By placing the hospital on a proper scale, a very great boon has been afforded to a class of individuals long neglected in this colony. I allude to the merchant sailors; and the greatest proof I can offer of what I state is, that since I opened the ward for them they have taken full advantage of the comforts afforded therein, as this year there has been the large number of 172 sailors treated in the hospital.

The number of extern patients to whom medical advice and medicines have been afforded gratis exceeds 1,000. The establishing this system of out-door medical relief has been of the greatest service to these poor creatures, and has been a very trifling expense to the Government.

There have been over 800 persons successfully vaccinated during the year through the schools and districts. The very great antipathy the natives have to their children being vaccinated is gradually giving way, and will, I have little doubt, in a short time disappear altogether.

ROBT. BRADSHAW,
Colonial Surgeon.

Enclosure 2. in No. 29.

Encl. 2. in No. 29.

COMPARATIVE RETURN of the Total Number of Sick treated in the Colonial Hospital of all Classes from 1851–2 to 1855–6.

Years.	Remained.	Admitted.	Total Treated.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained.	Proportion of Deaths to Diseases.	Per-centage.	Remarks.
1851–52	111	633	744	445	197	102	1 to 3·77	26 per cent.	
1852–53	102	415	517	289	117	111	1 to 4·42	22 „ „	
1853–54	111	322	433	254	113	66	1 to 3·83	26 „ „	
1854–55	66	300	366	182	81	103	1 to 4·52	22 „ „	
1855–56	103	440	543	398	70	75	1 to 7·77	13½ „ „	

ROBT. BRADSHAW,
Colonial Surgeon.

GAMBIA.

No. 30.

No. 30.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor O'Connor to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M.P.

Civil, No. 20.

(Civil, No. 20.)

Government House, Bathurst,
Gambia, April 7, 1856.

(Received May 5, 1856.)

Sir,

I do myself the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of this colony for the year 1855.

2. Notwithstanding the unexpected and unwarrantable insurrection on the part of the Mahometans of Combo in July and August last, and the consequent check to cultivation and to commerce, the revenue has not decreased to the extent I at one time feared would be the case.

Revenue.

3. The revenue for 1854 amounted to 16,108*l.* 6*s.*, while that for 1855 reached 15,325*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*, a decrease of only 750*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* A large portion of the seeming general decrease was a grant for the "Dover" of 1,630*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* for the year 1853, not drawn until 1854.

Expenditure.

4. The expenditure for the year 1854 was 18,686*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*; that for 1855, 15,270*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*; an actual decrease of 3,415*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* True, fewer public works were carried on, and a rigid rule of economical expenditure was adopted, but a popular and important building was completed,—the public market.

Public Market.

5. This profitable establishment, commenced during May 1854, cost, when completed and ready for occupation, in June 1855, the sum of 2,700*l.* 15*s.* The monthly return of rent has averaged 36*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, or an annual income of 436*l.* Deducting a clerk at an increased salary of 60*l.* per annum from the 1st of last January, two police constables at 42*l.* 14*s.* per annum from the 1st of April, and a labourer at 10*l.* per annum, a net income of 323*l.* 6*s.* remains, or nearly twelve per cent. interest on the whole expenditure.

6. So anxious are the petty traders, hucksters, and hawkers to obtain accommodation in the market house, that a large number cannot have stalls, and are compelled to sit under adjacent trees. An additional wing would hardly suffice for the extra number of applicants.

Commerce.

7. I extended my commercial expeditions this year to various portions of the coast seldom, if ever, visited by European governors.

8. I proceeded in the "Dover" up the larger rivers "Jeba," "Nunez," "Cazamanza," through the Bijonga Islands, touching at "Bissao," "Bulama," "Kanabec," "Sorcerer's Island," "Isles de Los," "Matacong," "Cantaber," "Zechinchor," "Joal;" and in February made my annual tour up the River Gambia, beyond the "Falls of Barraconda."

Treaties.

9. Two treaties of consequence to all civilized nations frequenting the Western Coast of Africa have been effected by me; one with the king and chiefs of Kanabec, a ruthless and savage race, who hitherto rejected all friendly reciprocity with the French and other powers.

10. I landed and remained for two days at Kanabec, and entered into a convention with the natives to protect vessels and mariners wrecked or driven in distress to this island, instead of plundering the cargoes, and, in many instances, perpetrating fearful atrocities on the crews.

11. The other treaty was with Bucarie Chillas, king of Boor Sin, the head of the Nomadic tribes known to Humboldt as "Tibboos" or "Tuarics," having no fixed habitations, living on or near the several oases of the great Sahara, systematically robbing all persons within their reach, which they consider a legitimate and honourable vocation.

12. Bucarie Chillas and his people gave me a most friendly reception at Joal, and agreed to a commercial convention, extending protection to all traders bearing my seal, and to all vessels and mariners wrecked on the shores of Boor Sin, a most dangerous part of the coast leading from Goree southward, and lined with shoals and breakers. Hitherto the natives of Boor Sin deemed vessels in distress as lawful prizes, plundering the cargoes and carrying the crews to the slave markets in the interior.

The Combo Insurrection.

13. I entered in former despatches so fully into the insurrection in Combo, that to recapitulate the several details would prove only a tedious narrative.

14. It was one of those sudden events which occur in demi-civilized countries no human foresight can anticipate or almost prevent.

15. A number of fanatics were roused into rebellion by Mahometan missionaries, and, regardless of all treaties or ties with their old and firm British friends, they kindled the flame of war, spreading anarchy and devastation throughout the English territory and their own possessions.

16. However, aided by our gallant French allies, who came promptly and cheerfully from Goree and Senegal, the enemy received a wholesome chastisement.

17. Their principal town, Sabbagee, was stormed and destroyed; and although the campaign was conducted and terminated not without some loss of life on our side, it proved very inconsiderable with that inflicted upon the enemy.

Military Defences.

18. The military defences of this colony are of vital importance to its future security and progressive prosperity.

19. I do not mean extensive expensive barrack buildings and fortifications, but such as will ensure safety of person and property to the population of Bathurst, and to the settlers in the vicinity of Cape Saint Mary's and the recently acquired district in Combo.

Cape Saint Mary's.

20. Cape Saint Mary's is in every way the most desirable position for the chief military post.

21. The climate is cool and salubrious; the country free from swamps, clear of jungle, the soil fertile; and the Cape, elevated some seventy feet above the level of the sea, lies open to the full fresh breeze of the Atlantic Ocean.

22. A barrack is required for two complete companies, a small number of black artillerymen, and quarters for the regulated complement of officers.

23. The presence of such a body of troops, aided by a few guns of mountain artillery, would create confidence among the adjacent settlers, and induce many persons to leave the sandy, swampy island of Saint Mary for the fertile plains of the Cape.

24. The new and judicious alteration in garrisoning Gambia and Sierra Leone with detachments from one West India regiment, instead of with companies from each of the three corps, will render it easy to relieve the two companies stationed at the Cape by the company from Bathurst and the company from M'Carthy's Island the second year, to be relieved in their turn the third year, returning to the Cape the fourth year.

25. This simple and inexpensive arrangement will enable all the officers and men to pass two years of their tour of duty in Western Africa at the healthiest station in Gambia.

GAMBIA.

Bathurst.

26. The soldiers' barrack at Bathurst has long engaged my anxious attention.

27. On a careful survey of the building by the acting clerk of works it was found in a dangerous condition.

28. A portion of the lower wall and pillars supporting the piazza having almost crumbled away, the beams and roof eaten by the white ants, and totally unfit to encounter the violence of another tornado season.

29. Prompt and active measures were adopted to provide shelter for the troops in garrison before the rains commenced, and for the drafts daily expected from the West Indies to increase the forces.

30. The walls were arched and strengthened, the pillars and piazzas rebuilt all round, a new roof constructed, accommodation afforded for 190 men in three spacious, well-ventilated flats, and separate quarters for sixteen non-commissioned officers, at an outlay of not one third a new barrack would cost, coupled with a reduction of 117*l.* per annum for low, miserable, detached, hired buildings in various parts of the town.

31. The plan, detail, work, and internal arrangements of the barrack reflect great credit on Mr. John J. Staples Finden, acting clerk of works and colonial engineer.

Military Settlers.

32. I have always strongly advocated the locating of military pensioners, not on fragments of land, but on lots of sufficient dimensions to afford them a pecuniary interest in and recompense for their cultivation.

33. Upwards of sixty old, but not infirm, soldiers have been discharged from one detachment; it is proposed to place a certain number, 25, at the Cape under their sergeant, not in an irregular straggling manner, but in a simple, easily laid out village.

34. A sum of 5*l.* to be expended in building a hut for each pensioner, the men furnishing the labour to convey the materials.

35. If a number of such stations were planted at the Cape, and on the plain adjacent to it, the commandant at Cape Saint Mary's could superintend the pensioners, and maintain their habits of good order and discipline by exercising them for three days quarterly, and in one body for six or ten days annually, the men receiving the regulated daily pay while so engaged, and the superintending officer a moderate recompense for the additional trouble given him.

36. By this means a small but effective body of veterans would be always available to assist the regular troops in the field, or in repelling the attack of a foreign enemy, and spreading by slow but sure degrees over the country, constitute the most useful and economical military defence of the colony.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTH O'CONNOR,
Governor.

GOLD COAST.

GOLD COAST.

No. 31.

No. 31.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Acting Governor Connor to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 62.) Cape Coast Castle, 12th July 1856.

Sir, (Received 9th October, 1856.)

I have the honour to forward you herewith in duplicate the Blue Book for 1855.

2. I have upon more than one occasion in my official correspondence referred retrospectively to the year which is the subject of this Blue Book with some gratification, as having been the birthplace of many, and I hope beneficial, administrative introductions, in the institution, carrying out, explanation, and, I

may also add, defence of which I had, with the several other officers of my Government, to be up and doing.

3. I know it may be said that, as what I refer to as gratifying are various matters which had their commencement so recently as the year in question, it is too soon to chronicle them as sources of pleasurable recollection. But though this may be very true as a general remark, yet it seems out of place when addressed to one engaged in the retrospect of a period which has passed. Quum semel occideris, et de te splendida Minos fecerit arbitria. The very fact that what may follow may not correspond with the commencement gives a zest in commemorating what has been done in a space of time which has closed, and which no future can alter. Carpe diem; quam minimum credula postero. But, besides that, every one knows how much easier to go on is in general than to begin. How many difficulties in prospect open, as we advance, a way to us, like the ghosts of brambles in the Spectator's dream, or lay their bodies in the dust that we may pass over them? so also the recollection of the exertion which the first pull called forth, and that the particular period reviewed in which the exertion was made was witness of no reverse, makes one look kindly at his departed companion, and it is but natural to some extent to associate with that period the pleasure which attends exertion which has had no alloy of failure.

4. To continue, therefore, as I began, I may say that it is gratifying to me to remember, when writing of the year 1855, that within it a regular postal system, with reference to returns and option of payment on the spot, between the great country of which it is our pride to be children and these settlements and intermediate places, commenced and continued; that the form and regularity of the double entry system of accounts had birth and prospered here in the same year. That from remittances from the various receivers of revenue being but four, or fewer, in a year, they began here with 1855 to be weekly. And this latter circumstance is gratifying to me, not only from its fiscal effects, but really as an embryo germ of a new impetus for civilization, for I cannot but hope that such may be the effect of the greatly multiplied intercommunication between head quarters, and as well the outstations as the (either locally or in habits) more remote places in the interior.

5. As bearing upon the same subject, I may mention that the number of country schoolmasters having been doubled in the year, they were sent into more distant localities of the Protected Territories than by the Government, or as far as I am aware by any other authority or body, had ever been done before—to Eastern Wassaw, Western Wassaw, and Akim. I have often inquired from persons coming from the interior, whether so and so wished for a schoolmaster, and the answer frequently has been, Yes, they would like to have some one to write their letters. I have endeavoured, too, to apply to the case of the schoolmasters the advantage which I recognize in frequent communications, by requiring that they shall make quarterly returns of the number and progress of their scholars, and keep and transmit to us the registers directed by the Committee of Council on Education, and by also directing the distribution of simple periodical literature to be conveyed by them in reading to their scholars and others in the native language. I may mention at the same time that my recommendation in my Despatch No. 78, of 27th August 1855, of the appointment of a Superintendent and Inspector of Schools having been sanctioned by you, Sir, education here has now, what I submit is of itself a considerable advantage, a separate department with its own head.

6. Another introduction here, of which I am happy to say the past year can congratulate itself on, was of printed forms arranged principally with corresponding fly leaves. I need not dwell upon the materiality of these for correctness, assistance, regularity, and check. A proper form is its own explainer. A proper fly leaf is its form's duplicate. A proper successive numbering of the forms and fly leaves on each book is a security against abstraction, and a means of identifying these duplicates. And what, perhaps, is not always borne in mind, the fact of introducing into practice such printed forms is taking a considerable step towards making their good effects permanent, because as long as they are in use they regulate the mode of return.

7. The exertion of the several officers in the Government under me to give practical effect to the different introductions I have referred to, to keep the machine going by making plain the rough places, adjusting the fittings, and

GOLD COAST.

tugging in a fix, are among the circumstances of the past year, which I review with pleasure. And with reference thereto it is gratifying to me to remember that with you, or your predecessor's sanction, and through the sufficiency of the local revenue, I have been enabled to add to the small salaries of some of the officers whose merits deserve my testimony.

8. In a report like the present the customs will necessarily occupy a permanent place of importance; nor has any department here been in the past year more thoroughly regulated and invigorated than it. And it is gratifying, also, to be able to show an increase from even the nominal rate of customs duty then in force in the receipts in 1855 over those in 1854, though the latter were considerably above those of the preceding year.

1855.

	£	s.	d.
Customs	614	1	9
Permits	32	15	6*
Port and harbour dues and wharfage	258	5	0
	905	2	3

1854.

	£	s.	d.
Customs	354	11	7
Permits	15	16	0
Port and harbour dues	123	0	0
Not distinguished	133	3	11
	625	11	6

The imports and exports returns, made out in such wise as they are, stand thus for the two years:—

Imports - 1855	£149,587	5	0
„ - 1854	107,200	0	0
Exports - 1855	£140,696	9	7
„ - 1854	200,002	0	0

The exports return is deficient with reference to some of the stations.

9. The ordinances for the increase of the customs duties do not properly come into this report, as part of the fiscal features of the year; but, as a political event, the attempt thus to improve the revenue deserved naturally almost an entire face to itself. It was given at least a trumpet mouth. I think it no small advantage for the question, and for my successors, that the subject has been introduced and so thoroughly threshed and sifted. My own opinion continues strong as to the desirableness and beneficialness of the measure.

10. Any Governor at the Gold Coast must feel, judging from his own anxieties, difficulties, and troubles, that if his Blue Book Report were not to include a distinct reference to the poll tax revenue, one of the principal characters on his stage would suffer a grievous slight. But on this point, too, 1855 maintains its ground stoutly. The collection of the poll tax in 1855 in James Town and its Accra dependencies, in Akim, and in Aquapim, when the circumstances under which the year 1854 closed, and the mode in which the attempt was at first met by some whose opposition was an aggravation of difficulty to this Government which I think it had a right to expect to be free from, are considered, was an event which I think any one acquainted with the circumstances will anticipate was not a little welcomed by me. And I take the liberty of inserting here an extract from my Despatch No. 30, of 7th April 1855, written very shortly after the giving in, and containing a description of the opposition threatened in James Town, and when I had begun to hope, as afterwards happened, that the leeward country would follow James Town in paying the tax. "Happily—to myself most happily—all opposition has melted away, and the tax is in progress of peaceable collection in the town, and every one gives

* Of this sum the sum of £1 11s. consists of passports.

me to hope that the country will follow the example of the town, which is looked on as a kind of head quarters."

11. The amounts of poll tax collected in the two years stand as follows:—

1855 - - - -	£3,990	3	7
1854 - - - -	3,622	15	9½

12. The general revenue of the two years appears to be as follows:—

1855 - - - -	£9,830	9	3½
1854 - - - -	9,132	13	3½

The general expenditure of the two years—

1855 - - - -	£8,501	11	10
1854 - - - -	7,971	2	0

The expenditure in the year 1855 appears to have exceeded that in 1854 by the sum of £530 7*s.* 10*d.* This is referable, firstly, to an excess of supplies in the year 1855 over the previous one, from the Colonial Agent General, the requisitions for which have been already before the Colonial Office. Then, secondly, by greater payments in poll tax, stipends of native chiefs. And, thirdly, by additions to the establishment in the way of new officers, or of increase of salaries of a few existing officers. The several amounts of increase under the above three heads stand as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
No. 1. - - -	696	12	7
No. 2. - - -	234	16	3
No. 3. - - -	113	0	11
	1,044	9	9

The principal reasons why, with this increase under the above heads, the excess of expenditure in the year 1855 above that in 1854, was not larger, are, that the Accra insurrections in 1854, occasioned an increase in contingent military expenditure; and the Ashantee invasion, in 1853, occasioned a large expenditure in 1854, in a mission to Ashantee. I regret to say, that with reference to these two last heads of general revenue and expenditure, the Blue Book of the year 1855 has, with reference to the year 1854, to depart from the Blue Book of that year, as in the latter the blunder was committed of adding "Arrears of revenue last year," and of expenditure, to the general revenue and expenditure, which ought not to be done, as the former constituted parts of the latter respectively. As from the circumstances of this government, at the time I took upon myself the preparation of the Blue Book in question, I must admit that I am, individually, guilty of the blunder.

13. In the year 1855, the Colonial Chaplain visited officially Accra, twice performing divine service at Christiansborg castle, on the Sundays of each occasion. I cannot but hope that such visits may prove beneficial, in the absence, or rather want, of a colonial chaplain for Accra. I may also add, as bearing upon the Ecclesiastical part of this report, that, in 1855, the custom was introduced of the chaplain having his sermon at the early Sunday morning service, at which the native soldiers of the Gold Coast Corps attend, rendered then into the native language.

14. I cannot speak much of our prison discipline, but I am happy to be able to state that the number who were the subjects of it in 1855 was small. The fact of individuals being prisoners at head quarters, whether for debt or crime, gives the chaplain better opportunity for personal intercourse with natives than he might otherwise have, and he anxiously avails himself of it.

15. I am not aware of much connected with the statistics of the year 1855, deserving of a place here. The crop of yams in that year appears to have been smaller than in the previous year, at least, I think there is for a longer period now than last year, a void place between the exhaustion of the old crop and the coming in of the new; using the latter prematurely, without sufficient drying in cooking, has a very deleterious effect upon persons of at all irritable digestive organs. I sometimes take advantage of a visit from the interior, to inquire as to the food there and mode of cooking; this generally excites risibility, and perhaps indeed, such questions, conveyed through an interpreter, would hardly be otherwise; but laughing is rather a native habit, when business is not on the *tapis*. The result, however, of my inquiries on this recondite subject is, that animal food is very little used, even by the "kings" of this country, except

upon periodical occasions, partly executive, and partly, what we, as Christians, must designate as superstitious. In the case of a chief, against whom lately, many and grievous complaints were made, and deemed proved, one was, that he had never summoned his head men to annual council, according to native custom, or, "never so much" they said "as killed a fowl" to welcome them. An officer of Government, who has been about two years here, says, that he reckons he has eaten while here seven hundred fowls. It has been his fate to be a good deal alone at out stations, and really it is hard enough under such circumstances to cater, except in a fowl or an expensive line.

16. In cooking, the natives seem to have almost a homœopathic prepossession for trituration. They pound and grind by hand labour, between stones, the maize, and bake it; so with their yams, and I believe cassada; they pound also their plantains, and make soup of them. Fish with a strong flavour and snails are favourites. The latter grow to a large, I had almost said, formidable size; I have in my possession, the shell of one, which I found buried about a foot in the ground, within a few yards of Government House, and which measures in length about five inches, and in circumference, in the widest part, about seven inches. A collection of these snails was once sent to me as a compliment, but I need hardly say, that I cannot speak of their taste from experience, though I do not know why I should not, as well as I can of land crabs, which when properly cooked are, I think, general favourites with us. On the subject of cooking, I may observe, that the country cooked dishes (if of materials of a nature and in a state admitted in the category of our edibles) brought to table in the black native made earthen pots, in which they are cooked on the fire, are almost without exception favourites with Europeans.

17. There is rather a remarkable species of fruit tree well-known in these Settlements, called the poppoi. The fruit has almost exactly the appearance of a melon, ovoid, and green externally, and internally of pinkish colour, with the seeds, which are black, collected in an oval; in the centre is a gelatinous like substance. These seeds when eaten, taste like mustard-cress. The remarkable property of the tree, however, is, that its leaves, or its fruit sliced, laid on raw meat will make it tender in a very short time, an hour or so. This property from, I may say, my own experience, I have no doubt of as a fact. I am told too, that if a piece of meat was hung up in the tree for a couple of hours it would become putrefied. Writing of trees here, I may mention another circumstance which will sound strange in English ears; there are some kinds grown much in towns, which are propagated by cutting from them what are called slips, but which are in truth branches, often ten feet long. I have caused this year several to be planted in the town of Cape Coast, and now in the near neighbourhood of the house which I am residing in, there are sprouting and sending out leaves, about a dozen trees of heights above the ground, varying from about four feet to ten, so that we have in the space of two months, got in the town trees of these sizes. Of course, however, they have not the quantity of foliage which a tree which had grown to that size from an ordinary slip would have.

18. With reference to our foreign African neighbours, the Ashantees, I do not know that I can or should say much. The merchants in Cape Coast represented to me about a year ago as a matter for serious consideration, that there was almost a total cessation of Ashantee purchasers with them, this was then considered a sign of threatened war. I hear the same thing, when now occurring, called an effect of the increased custom duties.

19. With respect to the health of these settlements, the year 1855 was considered fully an average unhealthy one, if not more than that. During part of that year one of the medical officers, having also a magisterial situation, used to visit Annamaboo in both these capacities, and the clerk of the Court writing up to him on business, added in a P.S. to his letter "The people are dying here somewhat like fowls." In a letter shortly subsequent, he expressed himself on this latter subject to this effect, "I have the same report to give of the health of the people as in my last letter." I should hope that in point of indulgence in intoxicating liquors, Europeans here are as little exposed to the charge of excess as they have been at any time; but still, at times, instances of it appear. The observation of a native woman who acts often as nurse, with reference to the death of a European who formed an instance of this kind, and whose intemperance attained its end in one of the few first days of this year, was, as reported to me,

to this effect, "God did not kill him, he killed himself; God did not want him." The effect of this climate on the health appears to me, if I may so express myself, like a snake preparing a victim for being swallowed, it quietly slavers him with poisonous saliva, and finally gulps him, unless the unhappy one has previously contrived to get leave of absence, and had the good fortune to get "home." But as I said last year, I repeat this,—it is to be remembered, that be the treachery or poison of this climate what it may, it is unlike many tropical countries, where at any time an epidemic may come down like "a wolf on the fold," and where these

> "Like leaves of the forest when autumn has blown,
> A host on the morrow lies withered and strown."

20. In conclusion, it may be expected from me to be able from my experience to point out in a few words, what appear to me to be the leading salient means for improving this country, morally and commercially; I should in reply state that the most prominent, as well as the simplest, means appear to me to be the distribution generally of elementary education, and the introduction into use of some kind of beast of burden. These latter would necessitate and secure the maintenance of roads, and I need not urge what the effect of this would be in increasing the intercourse of civilized travellers with the interior, and in facilitating the carriage, either to any river or to the sea side directly, of the products of the country, the multiplying of which would be helped by the interior being opened to the travellers I have referred to. It is hard to imagine that camels, mules, donkeys, and horses are all incapable of life here, but, I believe I may say, that the whole of the Fantee country with which the British Government is connected, does not at present possess a single one. Some persons will, no doubt, be more than astonished at my not referring to christianizing the population; but Christianity is itself civilization; and if I may so express myself, elementary Christianity, as far as teaching goes, is with me implied in elementary education.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY CONNOR,
Acting Governor.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

ST. HELENA.

No. 32.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Officer administering the Government of St. Helena to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State.

(No. 16.) St. Helena, April 4, 1856.
(Received June 23, 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book for 1855, which has been delayed for the preparation of the returns of shipping, &c. from the Customs, called for by Sir George Grey's Circular Despatch, dated 22d September last.

2. In compliance with the instructions contained in that Despatch, I have also caused the various returns to be carefully prepared, and so far as the means of information have been available, the accuracy of the returns may be depended on.

3. It will, however, be seen, that in some respects the information afforded is not so full as desired, arising from the want of proper statistical returns.

4. The colonial revenue for the year 1855 amounts to 16,441*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*, exclusive of receipts on account of the Widows and Orphans' Fund, and shows but a very trifling difference when compared with the receipts for 1854, viz., 16,145*l.* 2*s.* 2½*d.*, or, with the amount estimated for 1855, 16,310*l.*

5. The expenditure amounts to 16,007*l.* 2*s.* 9½*d.*, exclusive of payments on account of the Widows' Fund, and of disbursements on the colonial account made in England by Mr. Barnard. The accounts of the Colonial Agent to the

ST. HELENA.

end of the year not having yet arrived, the total expenditure cannot be accurately given. It will, however, be somewhat in excess of the estimate, in consequence of a considerable outlay for waterworks undertaken, with the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, to increase the supply of water to the shipping, and which were not calculated in the preparation of the annual estimates.

6. These works were undertaken upon the recommendation of Governor Browne; they must prove of great benefit, and were, indeed, almost unavoidably necessary to the accommodation and quick despatch of the large number of ships which call at this port on their passage to Europe.

7. The returns of population are obtained from a census taken in 1851, showing a total of 6,108. In connexion with this return, it is to be observed that the number of births during the year cannot be correctly given. The births registered amount only to eighty-seven in number, but as the registration is not compulsory, it is estimated that the number not registered amounts to at least as many more.

8. In the returns of imports and exports, I regret that it has not been practicable to comply with Sir George Grey's desire, that the articles should be stated according to weight and measure, and not by the packages in which they are contained.

9. In the returns of agriculture, also, the information given is, I regret to say, very limited. On the whole the year has been more favourable to the farmers than the year preceding, yet the blight and potato disease have continued to prove very destructive and discouraging to any agricultural enterprise.

10. On my recommendation, Sir William Molesworth was pleased to authorize the purchase of a flour mill, which has recently arrived, and will, I hope, prove of great benefit to the farmers.

11. Every attempt at the growth of wheat on a small scale as an experiment has proved satisfactory; and now that the ready means will be afforded of converting the wheat so grown into flour, efforts are being made to grow a larger quantity this year, and ultimately the cultivation of wheat may be generally adopted in lieu of uncertain potato crops, which, though most profitable in successful seasons, by their frequent failures in late years have so often caused great disappointment to the farmers as to reduce the larger number of them to comparative poverty.

12. The annual report on the state of the Government House, which is directed to be forwarded with the Blue Book, forms the subject of another Despatch of this date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. N. VIGORS,
Colonel, and Acting Governor.

Right Hon. the Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 33.

No. 33.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 71.) Cape Town, August 15, 1856.
(Received 3 November 1856).

Sir,

13 August 1856.

I have the honour herewith to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1854, together with a letter from the Colonial Secretary explanatory of the reasons which prevented him from effecting its completion at an earlier date.

2. As the enclosed Blue Book relates to a period of time antecedent to my administration of the affairs of the colony, and regarding which my predecessor has transmitted ample reports, it appears unnecessary for me to transmit an annual report of the colony during the year 1854 on this occasion.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

Enclosure in No. 33.

Encl. in No. 33

SIR, Colonial Office, August 13, 1856.

IN submitting three copies of the Blue Book for the year 1854, for transmission to the Secretary of State, I desire to explain, that, notwithstanding my best exertions, I have been unable to effect its completion at an earlier period.

The causes of this delay have been various; partly connected with the inadequacy of the staff of this office, until its recent revision, to meet the increase of business thrown upon it by the creation of a local parliament, and by the execution and operation of new legislative measures; and partly from the difficulty which is experienced in obtaining the necessary returns from the numerous independent bodies and individuals from which they are required, as well as the necessity for sending back the field cornets' returns for frequent correction and completion.

The preparation also for the parliamentary session, and the extra labour which it throws upon this office, and especially upon the financial officers who are charged with the compilation of the Blue Book, are serious obstacles to the progress of this work.

I had hoped that this would have been the last occasion of delay in the preparation of this volume, and that I should have been able ere this to have submitted the Blue Book for 1855. Every effort has been made to effect this; but an attempt to ensure greater correctness in the country returns has led to the discovery of so many errors that there is scarcely a division to which it was not found necessary to send back the returns, and this has caused much delay, which has disappointed me in the expectation of having the volume completed during the session of parliament. A considerable portion, however, is already in type, and I trust that in a short time the volume will be ready for transmission to England.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RAWSON W. RAWSON,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency the Governor,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 34.

No. 34.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 119.) Cape Town, December 11, 1856.
(Received March 18, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit a copy of the Colonial Blue Book for the year 1855, together with a memorandum from the Colonial Secretary explanatory of the causes which have prevented its completion at an earlier date.

November 1856.

2. I could not have deferred until this period transmitting for your information full reports upon the state of this colony and of British Kaffraria at the close of the year 1855. I have therefore kept you minutely informed upon all such circumstances connected with the state of this country as appeared to be worthy of attention. It therefore would appear unnecessary for me, when I shall so shortly have to report upon the state of the colony at the close of this year, to trouble you with any further remarks on this subject, upon the occasion of my transmitting the Colonial Blue Book for 1855.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Encl. in No. 34.

Enclosure in No. 34.

Colonial Office, November 1856.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit, for transmission to England, two copies, duly attested, of the Blue Book for the year 1855, and to explain the cause of its not having been completed at an earlier period of the year.

I had hoped to have been able to complete it, with the Blue Book for 1854, before the close of the last session of the Colonial Parliament, and the attempt to effect this was one of the causes, in addition to those which I have already reported, of the delay in the completion of that volume.

The main cause, however, of the delay in completing the present volume has been of a different nature. Last year I prepared new forms of returns, in which the several field cornets throughout the country were required to collect the necessary information, as a general complaint prevailed of the inaccuracy and worthlessness of a large portion of the returns procured in the old forms.

The new forms being more in detail, required greater exactitude from the field cornets, and greater care and a longer delay in the completion of the returns by the several divisional officers.

It appeared that many of the field cornets were puzzled by the novelty of the forms, and returned them in an incorrect or imperfect state. This caused delay in the original transmission of several of the returns to this

In order to ensure greater correctness, I directed that all the original forms should be transmitted to this office for examination and check. This led to the discovery of numberless errors and defects.

From scarcely one division were the returns sent up in a satisfactory form. This caused the necessity of almost all being sent back to the several civil commissioners, who had in most instances to apply to their field cornets for the necessary corrections, at a season when these officers are not in the habit of attending to these returns, and it is only within a very short time that the last of these returns has been sent back to this office. The utmost diligence has been since used in completing the abstracts and hurrying the matter through the press.

I cannot omit one other cause of delay, which offers an excuse for the tardiness of some of the frontier civil commissioners in sending back the amended returns. The state of alarm and preparations for defence in the border districts have hindered the earlier collection of the necessary materials.

I submit in a separate memorandum a proposal for endeavouring to make a correct periodical census, instead of an incorrect annual return, which, if adopted, will in future greatly expedite the preparation of the annual Blue Book.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) RAWSON W. RAWSON,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency the Governor,
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Office, November 18, 1856.

MEMORANDUM for His Excellency the Governor.

Blue Book Returns.

THE time is arrived for issuing instructions to the civil commissioners and other officers of Government to collect the information required for the preparation of the Blue Book for 1856.

I submit, therefore, for your Excellency's consideration, whether it is of any use to continue the futile attempt of collecting annually returns of,

Population,
Stock,
Animal productions,
Cultivation of land, and
Agricultural produce,

instead of obtaining them periodically, at intervals of five or ten years, according to the practice in the United Kingdom, and most other countries of the world.

The details of these returns are obtained by the field cornet of each ward, who is supplied with printed forms, and is supposed to ride round his ward, visit every dwelling, and note down all the numerous details required for these several returns. Many of these officers are so far wanting in the capacity required for such a duty that they are unable to read or write. The extent of territory and sparseness of the population in this vast colony will readily suggest the difficulty and inconvenience to these officers in performing this ill-requited duty. Yet the annual cost of preparing these returns is large. During each of the last two years it has been about 1,700*l.* a year. The labour and delay of abstracting the returns, of examining them in this office, and of attempting to obtain some approximation to correctness, can well be imagined.

When, in the first session of the Colonial Parliament, the House of Assembly was required to vote the sum needed for this service, several members complained of the incorrectness and worthlessness of the returns. I believed that this was partly owing to the shape of the forms then in use, which enabled the field cornet to insert what figures he pleased as totals, without any attempt on his part to obtain detailed information of the several dwellings in his ward, which was the only way in which any approach to accuracy could be obtained.

I undertook, therefore, to prepare new forms, which would require the field cornet to insert the details obtained at each house, and thus oblige him to visit each, and enable the civil commissioner to examine and check his visit. These forms were employed on the last occasion, at the beginning of the present year, with some advantage, as I had hoped.

But when the vote was demanded for this service in last session, the same complaint was raised against the present forms, and against any attempt to collect the information through the existing agency, which was deemed a mere waste of money. I only prevailed upon the House of Assembly to vote the sum demanded, upon explaining that the service had already been performed, as usual, at the beginning of the year, and that consequently the field cornets must be paid for it. I undertook, however, to represent the matter to your Excellency, with a view to the expense being saved next year.

There is a further objection to these returns, arising out of the fact that in order to obtain the information in time for the Blue Book the returns are collected at a season when the harvest is not complete, and when, consequently, it is both inconvenient for the field cornets to be absent from their own farms, and impossible for the farmers generally to make a correct statement of the results of their crops.

In my letter submitting the Blue Book for 1855 I have stated the trouble that has been taken with the compilation of the original returns for that year; but, after all the pains taken and delay incurred, the most intelligent of the civil commissioners, in sending back the returns, amended to the best of their ability, have reported that they cannot be depended upon; and it is certain that, whatever reliance can be placed upon them as exhibiting a general approximation to the social and commercial position of the several divisions of the colony, they are useless as a guide to the annual variations which they profess to represent.

The compilation of these returns is also the chief cause of delay in the preparation and despatch of the Blue Book.

It appears, therefore, preferable not to attempt to collect these returns annually through the same agency as hitherto, but to collect them through a chosen and more efficient agency, every five or ten years, for which service, at the rate of 1,700*l.* a year, 8,500*l.* would be available at the end of five, or 17,000*l.* at the end of ten years.

The figures and data of the last return could be inserted in the annual Blue Books during the interval; and it is believed that the superior correctness of returns so prepared will be more than an equivalent for their recentness, when little or no reliance can be placed upon their correctness.

(Signed) Rawson W. Rawson,
Colonial Secretary.

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No. 35.

No. 35.

Copy of DESPATCH from Acting Lieut.-Governor Colonel Cooper to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere.

(No. 30.)

Natal, June 5, 1856.

(Received September 3, 1856.)

Sir,

In obedience to standing instructions, I have the honour to transmit the accompanying report required from me on the general condition and prospects of the district, to accompany the Blue Book for 1855, which is also forwarded herewith.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. COOPER, Colonel, Acting Lieutenant-Governor.

Encl. in No. 35.

Enclosure in No. 35.

Report on the Blue Book, 1855.

1. *Taxes and Duties.*

2. Fees.

No variation from the preceding year has taken place in taxes, duties, and fees during 1855.

3. Revenue and Expenditure.

The following are comparative statements of the receipts and expenditure of the district for the years 1854 and 1855 :—

Comparative Statement of the Revenue of the District of Natal, for the Years 1854 and 1855 respectively, showing the Increase or Decrease under each Head thereof.

Heads of Revenue.	From 1st January 1854.			To 31st Dec. 1855.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	10,936	1	6	8,682	13	2	-	-	-	2,253	8	4
Port and harbour dues	136	16	1	132	1	6	-	-	-	4	14	7
Land sales for cash	88	0	0	170	16	9	82	16	9	—		
Land sales and drawbacks	-	-	-	10	0	0	10	0	0	—		
Land revenue	1,439	9	4	1,565	16	10	126	7	6	—		
Rents, exclusive of land	8	6	8	16	0	0	7	13	4	—		
Transfer dues	1,262	3	1	1,613	0	5	350	17	4	—		
Auction duties	463	19	2	538	0	1½	74	0	11½	—		
Licences	20	0	0	35	0	0	15	0	0	—		
Stamps	1,829	4	9	1,730	18	5	-	-	-	98	6	4
Taxes	10,038	8	0	10,629	11	6	591	3	6	—		
Postage	1,216	18	8	1,159	15	1	-	-	-	57	3	7
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court	532	2	2	1,660	5	0	1,128	2	10	—		
Fees of office	354	7	6	387	11	6	33	4	0	—		
Sale of Government property	19	9	0	34	17	0	15	8	0	—		
Miscellaneous receipts	59	8	8	86	2	9	26	14	1	—		
Surcharges recovered	5	2	8	1	12	9	-	-	-	3	9	11
Sums refunded	33	13	11	13	5	0	-	-	-	20	8	11
Loans	2,000	0	0	3,400	0	0	1,400	0	0	—		
Special receipts	126	15	11½	232	10	6	105	14	6½	—		
Deposits	-	-	-	1,223	7	6	1,223	7	6	—		
Advances recovered	827	4	11½	726	18	6	-	-	-	100	6	5½
Total Receipts £	31,397	12	1	34,050	4	3½	5,190	10	4	2,537	18	1½
Deduct Decrease							2,537	18	1½			
Increase on the Year £							2,652	12	2½			

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE of the District of NATAL, in the Years 1854 and 1855 respectively, showing the Increase or Decrease under each Head thereof.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE.	From 1st Jan. 1854.	To 31st Dec. 1855.	Increase.	Decrease.
CIVIL ESTABLISHMENTS.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
The Lieut.-Governor	808 4 0	600 0 0	- - -	208 4 0
Clerk of the council	50 0 0	50 0 0	—	—
Colonial secretary	1,186 17 6	1,210 17 11	24 0 5	—
Government secretary for native affairs	813 11 4	831 16 2	18 4 10	—
Treasurer	455 17 0	453 11 1	- - -	2 5 11
Auditor	534 9 8	543 0 4	8 10 8	—
Registrar of deeds	350 18 0	350 0 0	- - -	0 18 0
Surveyor-general	1,343 16 4	1,054 1 9	- - -	289 14 7
Customs	1,006 13 11	1,032 0 2	25 6 3	—
Port office and harbour department	725 13 6	718 13 0	- - -	7 0 6
Post office	719 13 8	744 15 7	25 1 11	—
Field commandants and field cornets	200 5 10	396 5 0	195 19 2	—
Ferrymen	84 0 0	142 12 1	58 12 1	—
JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.				
District court	1,251 10 3	1,089 2 2	- - -	162 8 1
Sheriff	100 0 0	145 16 8	45 16 8	—
Crown prosecutor	676 15 5	680 0 0	3 4 7	—
Division courts	4,322 13 10	4,456 8 3	133 14 5	—
ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS	591 13 4	650 0 0	58 6 8	—
EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENTS	604 0 0	451 6 8	- - -	152 13 4
MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENTS	224 11 1	257 6 1	32 15 0	—
POLICE AND GAOLS ESTABLISHMENTS	1,415 11 4½	1,383 7 0½	- - -	32 4 4
TOTAL ESTABLISHMENTS	17,466 16 1½	17,240 19 11½	629 12 8	855 8 10
Pensions, retired allowances, and gratuities	174 6 3	154 6 3	- - -	20 0 0
Revenue services, exclusive of establishments	436 10 3	683 16 0	247 5 9	—
Administration of justice, ditto	282 6 4½	115 2 1	- - -	167 4 3½
Education, ditto	- - -	177 10 0	177 10 0	—
Hospitals, ditto	67 16 7	99 17 6	32 0 11	—
Police and gaols, ditto	425 13 4	382 16 6½	- - -	42 16 9½
Rent	621 0 0	582 8 6	- - -	38 11 6
Transport	357 15 7½	460 5 0	102 9 4½	—
Conveyance of mails	1,215 18 2½	853 5 6½	- - -	362 12 8
Works and buildings	3,744 7 6½	2,412 17 11	- - -	1,331 9 7½
Roads, streets, and bridges	2,415 4 10	1,447 11 3	- - -	967 13 7
Miscellaneous services	2,251 18 0	1,603 19 4½	- - -	647 18 7½
Aborigines, exclusive of establishments	184 19 1½	192 16 1	7 16 11½	—
Immigration, ditto	- - -	10 0 0	10 0 0	—
Special payments	617 10 0½	1,067 12 1½	452 0 1	—
Sums refunded	137 0 11	320 6 11	183 6 0	—
Gratuities to religious, charitable, and scientific institutions	150 0 0	155 0 0	5 0 0	—
Interest and commission	99 18 9	59 14 5	- - -	40 4 4
Surcharges removed	- - -	0 0 2	0 0 2	—
Advances made	825 15 0	1,182 19 3½	357 4 3½	—
Loans repaid	- - -	4,400 0 0	4,400 0 0	—
TOTAL EXPENDITURE £	31,474 16 11½	33,603 4 11	6,602 8 2½	4,474 0 3
Deduct Decrease - - - - £			4,474 0 3	
Increase on the Year - - - £			2,218 7 11½	

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COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE or ARREAR SERVICES for the Years 1853 and 1854, paid in the Years 1854 and 1855, showing the Increase or Decrease under each Head thereof.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE.	Expenditure for the Service of 1853. Paid in 1854.	Expenditure for the Service of 1854. Paid in 1855.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
CIVIL ESTABLISHMENTS.				
Colonial secretary	502 18 7½	- - -	- - -	502 18 7½
Government secretary for native affairs	- - -	10 0 0	10 0 0	—
Customs	2 2 0	- - -	- - -	2 2 0
Post office	5 9 5	- - -	- - -	5 9 5
Field commandants and cornets	20 0 0	36 5 0	16 5 0	—
Ferrymen	- - -	15 0 0	15 0 0	—
JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.				
District courts	441 7 9	- - -	- - -	441 7 9
ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS	5 5 6	59 18 11	54 13 5	—
Police and gaols	3 0 0	3 0 0	—	—
TOTAL ESTABLISHMENTS	980 3 3½	124 3 11	95 18 5	951 17 9½
Revenue services	- - -	3 16 0	3 16 0	—
Administration of justice	9 0 7	2 2 0	- - -	6 18 7
Hospitals	0 18 0	- - -	- - -	0 18 0
Transport	- - -	31 1 0	31 1 0	—
Conveyance of mails	2 8 0	- - -	- - -	2 8 0
Roads, streets, and bridges	- - -	4 7 2	4 7 2	—
Miscellaneous services	- - -	124 8 11	124 8 11	—
Aborigines, exclusive of establishments	28 5 9	1 5 0	- - -	27 0 9
TOTAL EXPENDITURE, Arrear Services	1,020 15 7½	291 4 0	259 11 6	989 3 1½
Deduct increase			£	259 11 6
Decrease on the year			£	729 11 7½

SUMMARY of the preceding Comparative Statements of EXPENDITURE, Nos. 1. and 2.

EXPENDITURE.	1854.	1855.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
For the service of the years 1854 and 1855, as per statement No. 1.	31,474 16 11½	33,603 4 11	2,128 7 11½	—
For arrear services of the years 1853 and 1854, as per statement No. 2.	1,020 15 7½	291 4 0	- - -	729 11 7½
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	32,495 12 7	33,894 8 11	2,128 7 11½	729 11 7½
Deduct decrease			£ 729 11 7½	
Increase on expenditure during the year 1855, as compared with the corresponding year 1854			£ 1,398 16 4	

RECAPITULATION.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Revenue in the year 1854	31,397 12 1	Revenue in the year 1855	34,050 4 3½
Expenditure as per summary for ditto	32,495 12 7	Expenditure as per summary for ditto	33,894 8 11
Excess of expenditure over revenue during the year 1854	1,098 0 6	Excess of revenue over expenditure during the year 1855	155 15 4½

4. *Roads.*

The amount expended under this head in 1855 was 1,447*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*

The construction of roads in this district is an object of great importance, not only to those engaged in agricultural pursuits but to the merchants. The trade with the Dutch Republic beyond the boundaries would be greatly increased by good roads. In a military point of view, moreover, their importance cannot be over estimated,

5. *Legislation.*

Several ordinances of much importance, more especially those relating to the management of the natives, have been passed.

The following is a list of laws enacted during the year 1855.

No. 1., 1855, entituled "An Ordinance to more effectually check and "punish the stealing of cattle."

No. 2. An Ordinance to prevent unlicensed squatting, and to regulate the occupation of land by the natives.

No. 3. An Ordinance for the improvement and better regulation of the harbour of Port Natal.

No. 4. An Ordinance to prevent natives being brought into this district.

No. 5. An Ordinance to prevent the illegal compounding of the crime of theft.

No. 6. For the general management and regulation of the customs in the district of Natal.

No. 7. For levying certain duties of customs on articles imported into the district of Natal.

No. 8. To regulate the distillation of spirituous liquors within the district of Natal, and for the levying certain duties on the consumption thereof.

No. 9. Supplementary estimates, 1852, 1853, and 1854.

No. 10. Estimates for the year 1856.

No. 11. To repeal the Ordinance No. 8., 1854, entitled An Ordinance to promote the establishment of volunteer corps for the defence of the district; and to re-enact the said Ordinance with certain amendments.

6. *Imports and Exports.*

The falling-off under the head of imports is not otherwise than satisfactory, seeing that it may for the most part be attributed to the production and manufacture in the district of some of the necessaries of life, such as flour, sugar, &c. The decrease in the import of the two articles just named alone is nearly 5,000*l.* The total decrease of imports, as compared with those of the previous year, is 38,171*l.* The improvement of the exports is great, being in excess of those in 1854 by 8,474*l.*

The comparison of the exports of wool and ivory, and of the trade of the district generally, during the last three years, stands as follows:

Year.	EXPORT OF						Year.	TOTAL VALUE OF					
	Wool.			Ivory.				Exports.			Imports.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1853 -	3,556	0	0	11,048	0	0	1853 -	36,969	0	0	98,124	0	0
1854 -	5,141	0	0	14,689	0	0	1854 -	43,599	0	0	124,722	0	0
1855 -	8,331	0	0	14,089	0	0	1855 -	52,073	0	0	86,551	0	0

7. *Agriculture.*

Wheat.—Great progress has been made in the cultivation of this valuable grain in the upper parts of the district. The establishment of a superior flour mill in this city, the centre of the district, has much encouraged the Dutch farmer in turning his attention to the production of wheat.

Sugar.—Much land has been brought under cultivation for sugar, and those who have embarked in this branch of agriculture entertain sanguine hopes of

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the future. I enclose two articles on the subject, extracted from one of the local journals. A reference to the table of imports will show that machinery to the value of 5,192*l.* 18*s.* has been imported during the last two years.

This import is chiefly, if not entirely, confined to sugar machinery.

8. *Administration of Justice.*

The following returns show the number of cases, civil and criminal, disposed of in the district court during the last ten years.

I. Civil Return.

Year.	Number of original final decisions.	Number of provisional judgments.	Number of decisions on motions.	Number of appeals from magistrates.	Total.
1846	31	40	37	—	108
1847	14	8	32	—	54
1848	12	5	20	—	37
1849	14	21	32	—	67
1850	16	19	37	1	73
1851	19	35	34	—	88
1852	27	48	79	6	160
1853	15	20	53	7	95
1854	5	18	78	3	104
1855	35	31	231	6	303

II. Criminal Return.

Year.	Murder.	Manslaughter.	Administering poison with intent to murder.	Rape.	Arson.	Sodomy.	Housebreaking and theft.	Housebreaking with intent to steal.	Theft.	Receiving stolen goods.	Fraud.	Perjury.	Forgery.	Assault.	Total.
1846	3	2	—	—	1	—	2	—	12	—	—	—	—	9	29
1847	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	7
1848	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
1849	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	4
1850	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	6
1851	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	—	—	6
1852	4	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	1	1	—	12
1853	8	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	15
1854	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	2	—	—	2	15
1855	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	2	13

H. Cooper, Colonel,
Acting Lieutenant-Governor.

Extract from *Natal Mercury*, 15th February 1856.

Sugar.

After an interval of several months, it may be interesting to note a few particulars illustrative of the progress of the sugar interest in this colony.

The Springfield estate, under the spirited management of the present lessees, is rapidly developing its capabilities; and one fact is clearly demonstrated by recent operations, a fact which confers an enhanced value on the resources of the district, namely, that the period during which manufacture can be carried on each year is much longer than in any other sugar producing country; indeed it is doubtful whether the process may not be conducted during all seasons of the year. In the month of December, the mill having been put again into working order, twenty acres of cane were crushed, from the adjoining property of Mr. Beningfield, the machinery for which is shortly expected from England. This cane was only twelve months old, and therefore did not yield the usual quantity of saccharine, but the result, about eight tons of sugar, considering the nature of the material, was considered extraordinary. Last week the mill was employed in crushing the

remaining ripe cane on Mr. Feilden's portion of the Springfield property, which was two years and a half old, and was left uncrushed by the late proprietors, as being past the season, or over ripe; yet this lot from four and a half acres of ground has been successfully converted into seven tons of sugar, the manufacture of which occupied only fifty-three hours and a half. We may mention that this parcel of cane is from the plot of ground originally planted at the instance of the directors of the defunct Sugar Company, so that the efforts of that body, though not crowned with success as regards the company itself, have been productive to some extent, as regards the interests of the colony, irrespective of the impulse given to individual enterprise in the cultivation of the cane.

In about two months hence the work strictly of the present season will be commenced, and during the next eight months it is confidently expected that the whole of the cane at maturity, about 140 acres, will be converted into sugar. An additional set of pans has been purchased, and is to be immediately placed, and a ten-horse steam engine, ordered in England, is expected in about three months; so that the capabilities of this establishment will be shortly increased to an extent which will tell at once upon our colonial commerce. It affords us much satisfaction to hear from Mr. Potter, the intelligent and indefatigable manager of the estate, that no difficulty whatever is anticipated in the matter of Kaffir labour. This we apprehend arises partly from the improved tone of sentiment in the native mind, resulting from a judicious exercise of magisterial influence, but also partly from the possession of that tact for procuring and retaining native labour, which, account for it how we may, is the great key to the solution of the Kaffir labour question. Some men experience no difficulty whatever in procuring at all times as much labour as they require; whilst others to all appearance it may be equally sensible and kindhearted, cannot obtain labour at any price; no, not with the whole bench of magistrates to help them. It is a gift, an endowment, scarcely to be acquired, but certainly very valuable to its possessor.

We are happy to learn that during the few months of the present management, although the operations have been, as it were, out of season and desultory, and notwithstanding a considerable outlay in fixtures and stock, yet that the affairs of the estate show a highly satisfactory balance sheet, giving the certain augury of permanently handsome returns.

At the Umhlali, on Messrs. M'Lean's property, the new mill has been in active operation, and some very fine samples of sugar made there were exhibited at the recent agricultural show. A large extent of cane on this estate awaits the operations of the forthcoming season.

On the Tongaat estate there are 120 acres of splendid cane ready, or fast ripening, for the mill. The disaster to the Annabella, on board of which is machinery for this estate, has seriously endangered the available results of this large production, but still there is a possibility of the machinery being saved from the wreck; and in any case we are happy to hear from Mr. Saunders, the energetic resident owner, that he hopes to be able to adopt such expedients as will save at least a considerable portion of the year's crop.

Southward of Durban, we have Mr. Jeffels and Mr. Mack (who gained the first prize at the late show) both busy with their mills, producing beautiful sugar for the market, and preparing, we believe, for the demands which a rapidly increasing cultivation will speedily create.

Mr. Babbs has a large extent of cane planted and flourishing, and he, too, is erecting buildings to receive machinery, expected shortly to arrive.

Mr. R. King, on his fine flat, is growing cane extensively; and Messrs. Platt, Joyner, Priddle, and several others in the same neighbourhood, can show fine cane fields, in various stages of growth. From all we can learn, we believe there is ground for a confident hope that existing or forthcoming arrangements with regard to machinery will meet the requirements of the present season in all the cases we have named; but it must be borne in mind that those requirements will multiply and extend in a rapid ratio every succeeding year.

On the whole we believe there are fully 400 acres of cane that await the operations of the forthcoming season; and that if no unforeseen events frustrate present arrangements the whole of this will be worked off before next Christmas. At a very low calculation (much lower than results actually realized would justify), we may therefore reckon upon a production of 600 tons of sugar, just about double the average annual import of that article, and thus leaving 300 tons to represent the surplus for exportation over sea.

Since the above was written we have had kindly handed to us, by Messrs. John Millar and Co. of this port, the gratifying report on the eminent sugar brokers, Messrs. Barber, Nephew, and Co., of Fenchurch Street, London, of a sample of sugar from the Springfield estate, forwarded by Messrs. Millar and Co. to that firm:

"35, Fenchurch Street, October 11, 1855.

"We have the pleasure to report to you on the quality and value of a sample of sugar "which we received from you, viz.:

"Crystallized, moist, and good grain, but rather grey; value 48*s.* per cwt., duty paid; "duty, 17*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. This class of sugar is more saleable if quite white, or else of a "bright yellowish tinge. The value of sugar similar to this sample, in May last, was "only 42*s.* per cwt., duty paid."

It may be mentioned that the "grey" colour noticed in the above report has been entirely overcome by later experience and improvements. The quality of the cane is pronounced by Mauritius and West Indian planters to be unexcelled. Letters by the

NATAL.

last mail from the former island express surprise at the progress indicated by the fact of five thousand gunny and vacoa bags having been ordered there for the Springfield estate alone. Our neighbours had been rather sceptical, and perhaps a little jealous, but such an order is too significant an indication of progress to be resisted.

It will be seen that ten tons of Natal sugar from Springfield are to be offered for public sale next Thursday.

EXTRACT from *Natal Mercury*, 29th February 1856.

Many substantial arguments in support of this view might be drawn from the general aspect of affairs in various departments of our social, industrial, and, we may add, political condition, having special reference, however, in all, to the measures of policy guaranteed by Sir George Grey, on his recent visit to Natal. But for the present we pass by these considerations, and notice merely the certain augury of coming prosperity in connection with the production of sugar. The fully established adaptedness of this colony to become an extensive sugar importing country had already imparted an unwonted degree of vigour and confidence to the operations of our planters; but the recent accounts of the state and prospects of the sugar market in Europe have had an extraordinary effect in quickening and deepening those wholesome sentiments. It has been abundantly, we might say redundantly, proved that sugar can be produced here of as good quality and at as cheap a cost as in any country in the world, produced in unlimited quantity, with the aid, of course, of the requisite capital, so as to remunerate handsomely, at the prices that ruled prior to the late advance. But as the price is now from 100 to 150 per cent. higher than its former average, and as it is the opinion of the best informed parties in England that the rise will be maintained at least for the next two or three years, and permanently to a considerable extent, we need not stop to notice the great capabilities of this most profitable enterprise. We have not the slightest doubt that many of our fellow colonists who have hitherto been toiling up hill against all sorts of difficulties are now on the highway to fortune, and will in a few years be, as they deserve to be, men of independent means. The present planters have a great advantage over those who may now come in, since they have the raw material ripening for the mill, or ready for more extensive transplantation; and it affords us unfeigned satisfaction to find that our estimates, with regard to machinery available for the forthcoming season, were decidedly below the mark. Partly as the result of the planters' confidence in their own resources, partly through the assistance of friends at home, whose confidence is at length established, and partly, we are happy to add, through the wise and well-based liberality of our colonial merchants and capitalists, the necessary means have been adventured for providing a larger amount of machinery for the growing crops than we were aware of at the time we wrote the article which appeared a fortnight ago. In that article we find also that we understand (as indeed we wished to do, in order not to mislead,) the extent of cane under cultivation. At this moment it is not much, if at all, under one thousand acres; and this will be increased to an extent which we cannot estimate by the planting operations of the present year.

PART IV.

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND NEW ZEALAND.

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NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 36.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 36.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir W. Denison to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State.

(No. 145.) Government House, Sydney, September 18, 1856.
(Received 31st December 1856.)

Sir,

I forward herewith the Blue Book for 1855.

The preparation of the returns contained therein has been unduly delayed, in consequence of the changes which have taken place in the constitution of the government.

I beg to submit the following remarks, in elucidation of some of the returns contained in the book.

On analyzing the comparative yearly statement of the revenue, as given in page 142 et seq., it will be found to differ materially from the account of the receipts from various sources furnished in page 51 et seq., under the head of accounts of receipts and expenditure for 1855.

This apparent discrepancy, however, is due to the change by which, on the 24th November, under the New Constitutional Act, the whole of the revenues of the colony, general and territorial, were consolidated into one fund.

The receipts towards this fund are shewn in page 70 et seq., and must be added to them in the former returns, in order to make up the amount exhibited in the comparative table before alluded to.

Having then explained a discrepancy which might otherwise have thrown some doubt upon the accuracy of the table, I will proceed to give such brief explanations of the changes in the amounts collected under the various heads of revenue as may be sufficient to give you a clear idea of our financial position.

On referring to the return of the revenue from the Customs, it would seem that this had increased to the extent of 16,014*l.*; it must not, however, be forgotten that large additions were made to the duties on spirits by an Act passed in 1854, viz., 18 Vict., No. 24., and that the increase above alluded to was not in any way commensurate with these additions; the apparent increase, therefore, is no evidence of a flourishing revenue, and the statement in the column of remarks is a correct explanation, so far as it goes, of the causes which have had an unfavourable effect on the revenue.

But in drawing a comparison between the revenue of 1855 and that of 1854, the fact must not be lost sight of, that in the latter year the consumption of dutiable articles partook of the exaggerated character resulting from the stimulus given by the gold discoveries; the diminished consumption of 1855 may be accounted for to a certain extent by the return of the population to a more natural and therefore a more healthy state.

The increase under the head of colonially distilled spirits is due altogether to the increased duty imposed by the Act 18 Vict., No. 24., before alluded to. The other items of revenue do not appear to call for any explanation beyond that given in the column of remarks, with the exception of those at the end of the table, which exhibit the amount raised by loan for various public purposes and for immigration.

The total amount raised by the sale of debentures in 1855 was 630,967*l.*, and of this by far the largest proportion was expended in the purchase and completion of the lines of railway from Sydney to Paramatta and from Newcastle to Maitland. As, however, the details of the arrangements relative to railways and other public works have been fully explained in other despatches it is not necessary to allude to them here.

The expenditure of 1855 shows a net increase, as compared with that of 1854, of 538,456*l.*; but against this must be placed an outlay of 546,028*l.* upon public works, many of which are of a description which will eventually return an interest upon the outlay for their construction.

The Paramatta railway has already returned a small interest upon the very large outlay made upon it; and it will, I have no doubt, prove eventually to be a profitable investment in every sense of the term.

The Newcastle railway will, I have no doubt, return a fair interest upon its cost, as there will be a very large goods traffic to the port of Newcastle, including an annually increasing quantity of coal.

The interest of the money expended upon the sewerage and waterworks of Sydney will be paid out of the rates.

The increase upon the other items of expenditure is explained in detail in the column of remarks, as is also the diminution in the amount expended upon immigration.

The total expenditure for the year was 1,675,024*l.*, of which 630,967*l.* was raised by loan. The interest of this sum, amounting to about 32,000*l.*, will be a charge upon the revenue of future years.

260,408*l.* may be said to have been paid out of the capital of the colony, as this amount was derived from the sale of Crown lands.

The total expenditure from the income of the colony amounted then to 783,648*l.*, and this is equivalent to a charge of about 2*l.* 10*s.* per head upon the whole population. This charge, it must be understood, includes, in addition to the cost of the government, that of educating the people, of maintaining the ministers of religion, of affording relief to the poor, of maintaining the roads, &c., &c.; in fact it includes a variety of charges which are elsewhere defrayed out of the revenues locally raised and appropriated.

The expenditure of the commissariat in 1855 appears to have been 130,674*l.* Of this, however, 87,588*l.* were disbursed for purposes which had no reference to the colony; and of the balance, 6,603*l.* was chargeable to the North Australian expedition; the remainder, 36,482*l.*, was the gross charge upon the Imperial funds for the maintenance of convicts and the defence of the colony, and of this 7,487*l.* was repaid to the military chest, leaving a total expenditure from Imperial funds of 28,994*l.*

The charge for the maintenance of convicts will, it is hoped, be reduced in future years, as by an improved system of prison discipline it is believed that the labour of prisoners may be made available to a much greater extent than has hitherto been the case, and a corresponding reduction will then be made in expense chargeable to the government.

The commissioners of the city of Sydney were appointed in the place of the old corporation, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

They have performed their duties as effectively as the means placed at their disposal would enable them to do; but the high price of labour, and the consequent extravagant cost of all improvements, has limited within narrow bounds the work which they have been able to perform. They have, however, done much towards the repair of the streets. They have commenced a thorough system of sewerage, and have commenced the execution of a plan for the supply of water to the city from a source about eight miles distant from the centre of the town.

With regard to the different local bodies, as road trusts, &c., the same causes which have checked the operations of the city commissioners has exercised a similar influence upon them; and the sum of 15,532*l.*, raised and appropriated to the repair of roads, including a sum of 3,046*l.* from the general revenue, has not been productive of much good.

The public debt amounted on the 1st January 1856 to 1,366,770*l.* Of this, 419,700*l.* was borrowed on the security of the land revenue, to defray the cost of the passage of emigrants from the mother country. Of the remainder, a large portion has been employed upon works which will when completed return a large interest upon the cost, and will eventually raise the value of the waste land of the Crown, which may be termed the capital of the colony, to an extent which will enable the Government to pay off the full amount of the debt.

The works for the defence of the harbour and city of Sydney, which are described in my Despatch, No. 137, dated 8th September 1855, were commenced in 1855, and will be completed in the course of the present year.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The public works which have been commenced or contemplated in the course of 1855 are of importance. Bridges have been constructed over several rivers; buildings for the accommodation of the police, and for other purposes, have been erected; preparations have been made for improving the navigation of the rivers Hunter and Brisbane. The railways, which were purchased by the Government, have been carried on energetically, and surveys have been commenced for their extension and development.

The population returns can only be considered as approximative.

The establishment of a system of registration, under an Act passed during the session of 1855, will, it is believed, afford data for a more perfect set of returns from henceforward.

The educational returns are very unsatisfactory.

On reference to the census returns, it seems that in 1851 the number of children between the ages of seven and fourteen amounted to 28,864, while the number of children attending the various schools was, in 1855, only 18,975; of these, too, a very large proportion attend very irregularly. An examination into the state of the schools generally, by a board specially appointed for the purpose, resulted in a report which exhibited the condition of the schools in anything but a favourable light.

The returns show a falling off in the value of the imports into the colony, as compared with those of the preceding year, to the extent of 1,312,544, or about twenty-two per cent.; and a reference to the items in the return will afford some explanation of the reduction in the revenue derived from the customs; for instance, in 1854, the import of spirits amounted to 1,606,290 gallons, while in 1855 the quantity only reached 582,989 gallons,—not much more than one third of that of the preceding year.

There was also a reduction of more than thirty-three per cent. in the quantity of beer and ale imported in 1855.

In tea there was a reduction of about twenty-five per cent.

While there was a large increase in the import of flour and grain, the value of the imports under this head in 1855 exceeded those of the imports of 1854 by 440,000*l.*, or by full 200 per cent.

The very great increase in the price of the necessaries of life, as indicated by this increased importation of bread stuffs, is sufficient to explain the corresponding reduction in the consumption of spirits and beer and other articles which may be looked upon as luxuries.

The table of exports also shows a diminutive value to the extent of twenty-eight per cent.

In some instances this has originated in a reduction of price, as, for instance, in the case of coal, when the quantity exported in 1855 was upwards of 61,000 tons against 59,000 shipped in 1854; but the value in this latter year was put at 101,752*l.*, while the larger quantity in 1855 was only valued at 58,893*l.*

In the wool there has been a decrease in quantity, while the price has remained stationary.

While in tallow there has been a decrease in quantity to the extent of thirty per cent., but a rise in the price of about seven and a half per cent.

The export of gold has diminished in value from 773,209*l.* to 209,250*l.* The operations of the mint may have had some effect in producing this, as most of the gold produced in New South Wales is brought to that establishment, where the highest price is given for it. The quantity which is produced does not appear to vary much, and may be put at about 100,000 ounces per annum.

The agricultural returns show a large increase in the land under crop, and a corresponding addition to the amount of produce brought to market; the consequence has been a reduction of price, but not to an extent sufficient to affect the cultivator materially, if the returns can be depended on.

The average wheat crop does not exceed fifteen and a half bushels per acre; much too small an amount to make cultivation profitable, when a labourer receives 40*l.* per year and his board and lodging.

The yield of maize appears to average twenty-nine bushels; but this also is but a poor crop, when the price which it brings is considered.

The cultivation in fact is very slovenly, and but few attempts have been made to introduce machines, which, while they very much economize labour, have at the same time a beneficial effect in increasing the produce.

The land sold in 1855 amounted altogether to 127,952 acres, the total value

of which is put at 269,131*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, or, at an average, a little more than 2*l.* per acre. This land was divided into 5,910 lots; of which, 3,462 were town allotments, 1,114 suburban, 1,244 country, and ninety special country.

The average extent of the country allotments appear to have been eighty-eight acres; and as some were of course of larger area than those, it may be assumed that the principal purchasers were small capitalists anxious to invest their money in farms of forty or fifty acres, and to settle down permanently on the land.

The Government has been making every effort to press forward the survey of land for sale, in order to enable persons coming to the colony to select at once such land as may be suitable for their purposes.

I regret that I am not able to give a favourable report of the state of the gaols, or of the system of discipline maintained in them.

The whole subject of prison discipline must be brought under the considera tion of the Legislature, with a view to the introduction of a system by which, while punishment is made real and effective, the expense to the colony may be reduced.

The subject has been under the consideration of a board, whose report will be laid before the Legislature, as affording data upon which any new scheme of prison discipline may be based.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Secretary of State, &c. &c. &c. (Signed) W. DENISON.

VICTORIA.

No. 37.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Charles Hotham to the Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth, Bart.

(No. 154.)

Toorac, near Melbourne, December 14, 1855.

(Received March 25, 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honour herewith to transmit the Blue Book of this colony for the year ended on the 31st December 1854, and beg to draw your attention to some of the more interesting heads presented on the face of the returns of which it is composed; but as I did not assume this government until the 23d day of June 1854, I am unable to pledge myself to the accuracy of this statement.

Blue Book, 1854.

Taxes and Duties.

Down to the 19th January 1854, the tariff, as fixed by the 16th Vict., No. 2, was in operation, and was replaced on that day by the 17th Vict., No. 6. This latter tariff was again altered on the 8th December 1854, by the 18th Vict., No. 9, which is still in force.

By the change in the tariff which took place on the 19th January, a duty of sixpence per gallon was imposed upon malt liquors, and the duty on wine increased from one shilling to two shillings per gallon.

In other respects the tariff fixed by the 16th Vict., No. 2, remained unaltered. By the 18th Vict., No. 9, which came into operation on the 8th of December, the duty on spirits was raised from seven shillings to ten shillings the gallon, the duty on cigars increased to three shillings the pound, the duty on tea increased from threepence to sixpence, and the duty on coffee, which under the former tariff had been ten shillings the hundredweight, was raised to eighteen shillings and eightpence the hundredweight.

Duties were also imposed upon the following additional articles, viz.:

Chicory eighteen shillings and eightpence the hundredweight, sugar six shillings the hundredweight, and molasses and treacle three shillings the hundredweight.

VICTORIA.

This additional tariff was submitted by the Government and passed by the Legislative Council towards the close of the year, to meet the deficiency in the revenue.

A warehouse licence was imposed on the 8th April 1854—by Act 17 Vict., No. 17—and a tonnage duty of one shilling per ton upon all vessels arriving in any port of the colony. A change in the pilotage rates was also made by the Act 17 Vict, No. 28, of the 12th April 1854, and a new Postage Act—17 Vict, No. 30—was introduced on the same day, together with an assessment on stock, a licence to publicans, a licence to spirit merchants, and a payment of one hundred pounds for granting letters patent.

A fee was also imposed upon the registry of common lodging houses by the 18th Vict., No. 8, and the Governor authorized to fix the rate of tolls upon the public roads by 17th Vict., No. 29.

These additional taxes were, I presume, considered to have been required to keep up the revenue, in consequence of the great decrease in the gold revenue produced by the reduction in the licence fee, Act 17 Vict., No. 4.

Fees.

The fees derived from the transmission of messages by the electric telegraph, which was established during the year 1854, are a pleasing evidence of the advancement and progress of this important colony.

General Revenue.

The ordinary revenue for the years ending 31st December is stated to have have been for—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1854 - -	2,386,398	19	8
1853 - -	1,648,309	16	4
Showing an increase of	£738,089	3	4

But in the year 1854, it is also stated, that it had been found necessary, in order to meet the enormous expenditure, to borrow from the

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Melbourne Corporation -	300,000	0	0
Bank of New South Wales -	97,000	0	0
,, Australasia - -	193,500	0	0
Total - - -	£590,500	0	0

So that the ordinary revenue for 1854, after deducting this amount, can only be said to have exceeded that of 1853 by 147,589*l.*

There is a considerable decrease in the gold revenue of 1854 (328,164*l.*) compared with that of 1853, chiefly owing to the reduction of the licence fee under the Act 17 Vict., No. 4, and a decrease in the duty on spirits of 49,656*l.*, in consequence of the large quantities of spirits which were taken out of bond during the latter part of 1853, in anticipation of an increased tariff.

The increase of the general revenue of 1854 over that of 1853 is observable principally under the heads of—

1. Proceeds of storekeepers' licences.
2. Increased duty on wine.
3. Duty on ale, spruce beer, and cider, &c.
4. Increased pilotage rates.
5. Tonnage duty on shipping.
6. Increased postage rate, Act 17 Vict., No. 30; and,
7. Assessment on stock.

Under the head of licences it will also be observed there is a considerable increase to the revenue.

The territorial revenue for the years ending 31st December is stated to have been for—

	£	s.	d.
1853 - -	1,553,829	10	3
1854 - -	1,426,353	17	6
Showing a decrease of	£127,475	12	9

There is a decrease of 138,636*l.* under the head of sale of land and town allotments, in consequence of there having been fewer sales near Melbourne and other localities, in which very high prices were realized in 1853.

Expenditure.

A great increase in the expenditure of 1854 over that of 1853 will be observed, and which I presume was necessitated by the increase of business requiring a large increase of staff to the Government departments, and an increase of emoluments rendered imperative by the high price of living and house rent.

Under the heads of,—1, Civil and Legislative Departments; 2, Police and Coroners; 3, Military and Naval; 4, Public Works and Buildings, and 5, Civil Commissariat, will be found some of the largest items.

The increase of expenditure under the last four heads appears to have been rendered necessary by the extraordinary extension of the gold field, in all parts of the colony, and which seemed to make it difficult for the Government to keep pace with the growing wants of the population in those localities.

Under the head of Public Works and Buildings the expenditure is stated to have reached the enormous amount of 1,490,397*l.*, and the large expenditure for military was incurred by the maintenance for a considerable portion of the year of troops from Tasmania (in addition to the regular garrison) on account of disturbances and anticipated riots at the gold fields.

The expenditure under the head of Education and University Endowment was 142,616*l.*, whilst for Public Worship and for Miscellaneous Departments and Scientific, and grants in aid of charitable institutions, there is respectively 51,777*l.* and 82,935*l.* for 1854, to 21,007*l.* and 41,409*l.* in 1853.

A payment of 25,000*l.* was also made in 1854, to the corporation of Melbourne, for sanitary purposes in 1853. 383,900*l.* was advanced to the Commissioners of Sewerage and Water Supply as a loan, and 200,000*l.* was repaid of the loans which had been received from the corporation and banks.

Territorial Revenues.

The expenditure under the head of Survey, Sale, and Management, shows an increase of 91,806*l.* over 1853, in consequence of the continued increased demand for land, and the increased remittances for assisted immigration raised the expenditure under the head of Immigration from 185,879*l.* in 1853, to 374,548*l.* in 1854.

The total expenditure of both general and territorial revenue is stated to have been as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
In 1853 -	3,490,932	1	1
1854 -	6,043,049	8	7

In accordance with usage these comparisons of the revenue and expenditure of 1853 and 1854 are submitted; but it is to be observed that from the defective system on which the public accounts have been kept, and the confusion created by the mode which formerly prevailed of "impresting" large sums to heads of departments which were not brought to account until the vouchers for expenditure were furnished by them (as will be found fully detailed in the reports of the Finance Committee of the 11th September 1854, on the imprest system, and of the 14th November 1855, "on the keeping and rendering of the public accounts,") it has been found impossible to separate the cash payments from the adjusted imprests brought to account in each year; the amount of expenditure for the service of each year cannot therefore be ascertained from these figures.

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In a note from the Auditor General, which accompanies these statements, it is remarked, that they merely show the expenditure of this colony in the years 1853 and 1854, and not the actual expenditure for the services of those years.

"When, however," he adds, "the course proposed to close the books for each year on the 31st December comes into operation, the Blue Book will serve the same purposes as the public balance sheet."

It appears to have been next to impossible, under the system of imprests to which I have called your attention, and which I have since abolished, to separate the accounts of one year distinct from another, and ever since I assumed the Government of this colony, and became aware of the existing confusion, my endeavours have been directed to the initiation of a more satisfactory mode of keeping the public accounts.

Local Revenues.

The local revenue of the corporation of the city of Melbourne is stated to have been in 1854, 654,664*l.* 13*s.*, but this sum appears to include a loan authorized in that year by Act 17 Vict., No. 13, of 525,000*l.*, known as the "Gabrielli loan." 25,000*l.* given by the Government out of the general revenue for sanitary purposes in 1853, and 10,000*l.* on account of the Fitzroy Ward Improvement Act, being part payment of a special appropriation for this purpose made by Act No. 31, 17 Vict.

The expenditure for the year 1854 is stated in this return to have been 569,772*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*, of which 291,330*l.* was on public works in the city.

The total revenue of the corporation of Geelong, including a loan from Mr. Gabrielli of 199,500*l.*, is given in at 241,670*l.*, with an expenditure of 128,008*l.*, leaving a balance in hand on the 31st December of 113,582*l.*

Military Expenditure.

The expenditure under this head is stated to have been in

1854 - - -	£110,736	4	8
1853 - - -	74,090	17	7
Increase -	£36,645	7	1

The increase of 1854 over 1853 was caused by an increase to the garrison of the head quarters, and five companies of the 12th Regiment, who arrived in the latter half of the year, and the necessity which existed for obtaining the services of the 99th Regiment from Tasmania on two separate occasions at the end of 1853 and the end of 1854.

Public Works.

Under this head will be seen the enormous expenditure which has been undertaken in the construction of the public roads of the colony, and the great progress which has been made in these important and necessary works of public utility, and which are yet far from being equal to the growing wants of the inhabitants, and the vast trade which is in operation in all parts of the interior.

A vote of 500,000*l.* was obtained from the Legislative Council for this service in 1854; and in addition to this sum 300,000*l.* was taken and applied in anticipation of the vote for the same service in 1855.

The expenditure in the colonial engineers' department for wharves, buildings, &c., does not appear to require much explanation. 115,672*l.* is stated to have been already expended in new wharves during the year; 20,864*l.* on additional buildings to the penal establishments; 24,399*l.* on the extension of the jetty at Williams Town, and 25,777*l.* for the erection of additional buildings on the gold fields.

Legislation.

The most important enactments of the past year have been the Act to establish a constitution in and for the colony of Victoria, an Act to regulate the execution of criminals, and an Act for the establishment of municipal institutions; the former gives a new and improved constitution to the colony, and I trust will conduce to the happiness and prosperity of this portion of Her

Majesty's dominions. I attach great importance to the introduction of municipal institutions into this colony by the latter Act.

The remaining Acts of the year have been already specifically reported upon by my predecessor and myself; a list of which will be found in pages 110, 111, 112, and 113 of the Blue Book now transmitted.

Council and Assembly.

A return of members composing the Executive and Legislative Councils is inserted at page 134.

The Legislative Council consisted of nine official nominee members, nine non-official, and thirty-six elective members.

Civil Establishment.

There were upwards of 1,900 individuals employed in the several establishments of Government during the year 1854; but I have already acquainted you with the large reductions which very shortly after my arrival I deemed it necessary to make.

Those officers who have given security for the due discharge of their duties, with the nature and amount of the security, are enumerated at page 573.

Pensions.

The pension list in 1853 amounted to 1,364*l.*, in 1854 to 1,410*l.*

A pension of 100*l.* per annum to the daughter of the late Captain Flinders, R.N. is included in the pensions for 1854.

Foreign Consuls.

The foreign consuls at Melbourne in the year 1854 are stated to be those of Portugal, the free city of Hamburgh, the Brazils, Sweden and Norway, Spain, Chili, Denmark, United States of America, Belgium, France, and Prussia.

Population.

Population is given as follows on the 31st December:—

1853.	1854.
198,496.	273,792.

For further information in detail relative to the census of 1854, I would refer you to my Despatch No. 111, of 28th August 1854, transmitting the population tables prepared by the Registrar General.

The difficulties to be overcome in organizing measures for a perfect census for the first time are numerous. Although great pains have been taken by the officers to whom this duty was intrusted, I must observe that perfect reliance cannot be placed on the accuracy of the returns in consequence of the unsettled and wandering character of a large portion of the population on the gold fields.

Ecclesiastical.

The number of clergymen is stated to be—

Church of England	34
Presbyterian Synod of Victoria	14
Wesleyan Church	15
Independent	11
Primitive Methodists	1
Evangelical Union of Scotland	1
Baptists	3
Lutheran	1
Wesleyan Methodists	1
Unitarian	1
Free Presbyterian	17
United Presbyterian	13
Roman Catholic	22
Jews	2

VICTORIA.

Education.

The total number of schools, and the number of children under instruction in them, is stated to be as follows :—

CHILDREN UNDER INSTRUCTION.

—	No. of Schools.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Denominational - -	216	7,876	6,488	14,364
National - -	43	1,730	1,284	3,014
Private - - -	132	1,304	1,426	2,730
Totals - -	391	10,910	9,198	20,108

Exchanges, Moneys, &c.

The paper currency in circulation is stated to have been in

1853 - - - - -	£1,657,859	3	9
1854 - - - - -	2,240,086	0	0

The rate of exchange varied during the year from 1*l.* to 5*l.* per cent.
There are no means of ascertaining the amount of coin in circulation.

Imports and Exports.

The imports amounted to,—

1854 - - - - -	£17,659,051		
1853 - - - - -	15,842,637		
Showing an increase in the year 1854 of -	£1,816,414		

The exports amounted to,—

1854 - - - -	£11,775,204	0	0
1853 - - - -	11,061,543	17	0
Showing an increase in the year 1854 of	£713,660	3	0

Of this sum the value of gold exported in 1854 amounted to 8,255,550*l.*, and of wool in the same year to 1,618,114*l.*

Grants of Land.

The total number of acres of land granted and sold during the year is stated to have been 405,679, at the average price of 3*l.* 8*s.* 9¼*d.* per acre throughout the colony.

Agriculture, &c.

The total number of acres in crop during 1854 is given in this return as 54,905, whilst in 1853 the number of acres under crop was 34,654, showing an increase of upwards of 20,000 acres under cultivation ; the principal products being wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, and fodder for cattle and horses.

The return also shows an increase of 12,000 horses and 70,000 horned cattle in 1854 over 1853, whilst on the other hand a diminution in the number of sheep, to the extent of 262,213, appears to have taken place in 1854, the number of sheep in each year being respectively,—

1853 - - - - -	5,594,220
1854 - - - - -	5,332,007

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES HOTHAM.

The Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth, Bart.,
&c. &c &c.

TASMANIA.

No. 38.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir H. E. F. Young to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere.

(No. 70.)

Government House, Hobart Town, June 4, 1856.

Sir,

(Received September 4, 1856.)

I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book of 1855, and the Statistical Tables of that year.

2. The total *Free population* on the 31st December 1855 is reckoned on the datum of the last census in 1851, with subsequent corrections, at 62,237, including 15 aborigines.

The number of deaths registered in 1855 was 1,692; the births, 2,948; the number of marriages, 1,257.

3. *Immigration.*—5,471 immigrants were introduced in 1855 at the public expense, and 5,416 more paid their own passage. The departures from the colony were 7,055. The excess of immigration over emigration, in 1855, was 3,832. The total expense incurred in 1855 for immigration was 101,369*l.*

4. The *Convict population* at the end of 1855 was 7,740, of whom 5,859 were gaining their own livelihood, and 1,881 were maintained by Government. The tickets of leave issued in 1855 were 1,728; the conditional pardons, 2,109; the deaths, 71.

5. *Climate.*—The rain-fall in Hobart Town was 18·25 inches. The rain-fall in other places is believed to be more than in Hobart Town, and greater on the west coast generally than on the east; but a mean for the whole island has never yet been accurately taken.

6. *Diseases.*—The cases treated in the Colonial Hospitals in 1855 were in number 4,160; of which 917 were diseases of the lungs, and 918 diseases of the stomach and bowels. The deaths were, in all, 147; viz., 49 of the first-named diseases, and 15 of the latter, and the rest of various other diseases.

7. In the *Lunatic Asylum* there were 92 free inmates and 81 convicts; in all 173. The total admissions were 45; the total discharged, 28; the deaths, 10.

8. The number of *Insolvencies* in 1855 were 105; the liabilities, 99,018*l.* The number of registered mortgages was 299; the amount, 329,714*l.*

9. The *Imports* in 1855 were of the value of 1,559,797*l.*; of which 920,695*l.* came from Great Britain, and 94,640*l.* from Foreign states.

10. The *Exports* in 1855 were 1,428,629*l.*; of which 445,557*l.* went to Great Britain, and 13,993*l.* to Foreign states.

The wool exported was 5,858,458 pounds. The agricultural exports included flour, 223,585*l.*; oats, 119,565*l.*; wheat, 21,150*l.*; hay, 22,057*l.*; potatoes, 101,105*l.*; onions, 15,422*l.* The value of oil was 46,165*l.*; timber, 98,546*l.* The total value of all the exported produce of Tasmania in 1855 was 1,194,275*l.*

11. The aggregate *Tonnage, inwards and outwards*, was 220,468. There were 14 Tasmanian steamers, of an aggregate tonnage of 2,011 tons, and steam power 851. There are two patent slips in the port of Hobart Town in full working order, capable of taking up vessels from 700 to 1,500 tons.

12. The Tasmanian *Light-houses* are 6 in number. The cost of management, 4,296*l.*; the light dues received, 6,040*l.*

13. The consolidated *Colonial and Land Revenue* was 405,357*l.*; the expenditure, 506,973*l.* The excess of current expenditure over current revenue was met by the balance of 1854, and by 6,860*l.* of colonial debentures.

14. *Land Sales.*—21,508 acres of country allotments averaged 1*l.* 1*s.* 2¼*d.*, and 3,102 acres of town and suburban lots averaged 9*l.* 6*s.* 9¼*d.* per acre. The cost of the survey department was 15,230*l.*; waste public lands to the extent

TASMANIA.

of 2,160,534 acres were held under annual depasturing licences, on an aggregate rental of 27,583*l.* The total Crown lands revenue from all sources in 1855 was 82,821*l.*

15. *Cultivation and Live Stock.*—Acres in crop, 153,126. Sheep, 1,835,902; horned cattle, 110,304; horses, 18,358.

16. *Wages and Cost of Provisions.*—Labour, 5*s.* per diem; skilled labour, 15*s.* Flour per ton, 40*l.*; bread per 4lb. loaf, 1*s.* 6*d.*; meat per lb., by the carcase, 6*d.*

17. *Post Office.*—The number of post and receiving houses is 67; the number of persons employed, 103; the miles of post road, 679; the number of stage coaches, 39. The revenue of the post office, 9,308*l.*; and the expenditure, 18,473*l.*; the number of letters between Tasmania and Great Britain, 44,000; and the postage, about 700*l.* Letters from hence to Great Britain are prepaid at a sixpenny rate for the half ounce; letters from Great Britain are also there prepaid at the same rate, and delivered in the colony free. A contribution of 5,000*l.* per annum has been agreed to be made from the local treasury in Tasmania in aid of the expense of re-establishing monthly postal steam communication with Great Britain.

18. *Railway.*—A preliminary survey for a railroad between Hobart Town and Launceston has been made. The average gradient obtainable is 1 in 80. The line would pass entirely through private property, and will therefore probably render it inexpedient that the undertaking should be executed by the Government.

19. *Crime.*—The convictions for felonies and misdemeanors in the supreme court were 113. In the quarter sessions throughout the island, for crimes against the person and against property, were 232.

The capital executions were 6, all of convicts or offenders who had been convicts.

The colonial police and gaols cost 76,188*l.*, of which the Imperial Government contributed 18,000*l.*

20. The *Judicial* establishment cost 19,899*l.* The civil cases in the supreme court were 44; the actions in courts of request, 445—the cost of these latter minor courts, 4,660*l.*

21. *Education.*—There were 63 schools aided by Government; they contained 3,377 scholars; the aid was 9,352*l.*

In the orphan schools there are 405 children, of whom 240 are of convict parents, and chargeable to Imperial funds.

22. *Public Worship.*—The churches of England, Scotland, Rome, and the Jewish synagogue, are aided in the aggregate to the amount of 20,263*l.*

23. *General Observations.*—The deaths were fewer, the births more numerous, in 1855 than in 1854; the marriages in each year about the same. The immigration into the colony without Government aid has been nearly equal to that for which a bounty is paid. I apprehend that the immigrants are not stationary, but that many are attracted to the goldfields of Victoria.

The departures from the island in 1855 included 402 persons who were once of the prisoner class. The convict population has been satisfactorily controlled; the number has diminished from 11,000 to 7,000, and the cost to the Imperial Government has been reduced. The Imperial convict expenditure, according to the annual financial estimates appears to be:

	£
1854–5	184,566
1855–6	132,690
1856–7	96,154
1857–8	65,882

The imports in 1855 were considerably less than in 1854, but the exports were about the same, although the export of timber has decreased very considerably. The number of vessels engaged in the fisheries has increased. The consolidated revenue and expenditure were both increased in 1855, as compared with 1854. Less land, however, was sold in 1855 than in 1854, and the suburban lots averaged by one half a lower price per acre.

The general trade of the island has not come up to the sanguine expectations which prevailed in 1853–4, and led to an excess of imports. The export duty

on gold from Victoria has probably induced Tasmanian gold-diggers, instead of bringing back their gains, to get rid of them in Victoria; and the legislation of that colony, which renders it penal for persons holding Her Majesty's conditional pardon to migrate there in future, may perhaps detain diggers of this class in Victoria who would otherwise continue to migrate between these adjacent shores; but chiefly has the circulation of money among the trading classes been probably reduced by a partial failure of the grain crops, and also by retrenchment of late years in the Imperial expenditure for local, military, and convict services. Popular feeling has recently induced the local government to make an exception to its ordinary policy of leaving the production of colonial produce to private enterprise, and to sanction the expenditure of 2,000*l.* of the colonial funds in labour, to test the existence or non-existence of a workable gold-field at Fingal on the east coast of the island. Mr. Selwyn, the Government geologist of Victoria, last year reported his opinion to be that the district in question was an auriferous one, and some ounces of gold have been raised there. I enclose copies of the official notices and correspondence on the subject of this intended exploration for gold. Whatever may be the result, the urgency with which the experiment has been pressed on the local government appears to me to be an indication of the present depressed state of the mercantile interests, and of their natural anxiety to find this new and potent stimulus to a revival of trade. Since the rural inspections mentioned in my last annual report, I have visited the Huon river, and Port Esperance at the entrance of D'Entrecasteany's Channel, Port Sorell, the River Mersey, Emu Bay, and the north coast up to Circular Head; the east coast, including Prossers River, Spring Bay, Maria Island, Swan Port, Moulting Lagoon, the River Swan, the Schoutens Island, Douglas River, the reputed gold-fields at Fingal, Falmouth, and the new western country beyond the Derwent River to Mount Denison, and across the Gordon River. My journey to the new country fully satisfied me that the road which my predecessor Sir William Denison had commenced on the report of the Deputy Surveyor General, Major Cotton, in order to give access to the Gordon Plains, is a work of very great public utility.

Page 296.

The bridge at Dunrobin over the Derwent River, when finished, as, despite unforeseen casualties, will now soon be the case, is a very handsome and massive stone structure; the track beyond it, overcoming great difficulties, is of easy ascent. The vegetation of the Florentine Valley is a dense and splendid forest of myrtle, blue gum, stringy bark, sassafras, and lovely fern trees, overshadowing an extensive level of deep alluvial soil. At a road station on the mountain top, tares, oats, clover, cabbages, and potatoes were growing in the month of May; and the extensive valley, if cleared, would be exceedingly fertile under cultivation.

Lofty mountains bound the Gordon Plains for a probable length of about twenty-seven miles by an average width, including both sides of the river, of five miles, and on the other side of these mountains much open country stretches as far as the eye can reach in the direction of Port Davey. The mountain summits are crested at intervals with turret-like masses of quartz conglomerate. The Gordon Plains are underlaid with limestone, and it was found also in the bed of the river which I succeeded in crossing.

I sent to the Royal Society in Hobart Town for public inspection several varieties of the herbage of the plains, and of the limestone of the neighbourhood; and my journey having been followed by a few other persons who are well satisfied of the capabilities of the land,—although from the state of the Gordon River at the time of their arrival there they were unable to cross it,—I am inclined to think that the enterprise of the colonists will, before long, open this extensive district for pastoral purposes up to its natural and commodious shipping place at Port Davey.

Of the island generally I may remark, that in most districts the extent of wild and densely wooded land is very great,—very much of it hilly, stony, and rugged, and the labour and expense of felling the timber and breaking up the soil for cultivation most formidable. Other lands originally quite as uninviting have, however, been reclaimed in Tasmania, especially the heavily timbered lands of the Westbury and Deloraine districts, and are now extremely fertile and valuable; nor can there be any reason to doubt that in future years an augmented population will make successful war on the extensive wildernesses

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of this island. The tracts of country aback of Macquarie Harbour, and especially of Port Davey, where there is now ascertained to be much open country, comprises an area exceeding probably all that has been even viewed by the present population of the settled districts of Tasmania.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. E. F. YOUNG.

Encl. 1. in No. 38.

Enclosure 1. in No. 38.

STATISTICS of TASMANIA for the Year 1855, compiled in the Private Secretary's Office from Official Records.

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No. 1.

RETURN of the FREE POPULATION of TASMANIA on 31st December 1855, as compared with the corresponding date of 1854.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Population as shown in the Statistical Tables for 1854	14,253	13,208	25,695	53,156
Increase during 1855:				
By Births	—	—	2,948	2,948
Immigration	5,584	3,051	2,252	10,887
Convicts who have become free	3,010	968	—	3,978
Total Increase	8,594	4,019	5,200	17,813
Decrease during 1855:				
By Death	564	333	795	1,692
Emigration	4,801	1,753	501	7,055
Total Decrease	5,365	2,086	1,296	8,747
Net Increase	3,229	1,933	3,904	9,066
Total Free Population on 31st December 1855	17,482	15,141	29,599	62,222

No. 2.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CONVICTS in the Colony on 31st December 1855, as compared with the corresponding date of 1854.

	Maintained by the Government.				Maintaining themselves.				TOTAL.			
	1854.		1855.		1854.		1855.		1854.		1855.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Holding tickets of leave	211	101	74	63	4,018	2,108	2,316	1,704	4,229	2,209	2,390	1,767
Passholders in private service	—	—	—	—	2,228	417	1,659	180	2,228	417	1,659	180
Under probation	490	24	345	22	—	—	—	—	490	24	345	22
Under sentence	1,163	509	864	250	—	—	—	—	1,163	509	864	250
At depôts awaiting hire	4	7	—	5	—	—	—	—	4	7	—	5
In hospitals, and invalids	294	144	140	118	—	—	—	—	294	144	140	118
	2,162	785	1,423	458	6,246	2,525	3,975	1,884	8,408	3,310	5,398	2,342
	2,947		1,881		8,771		5,859		11,718		7,740	

No. 3.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of TROOPS in TASMANIA on the 31st December of the Years 1854 and 1855.

	1854.	1855.
Military Staff	1	1
Officers present	10	30
Rank and file fit for duty	325	678
Ditto unfit for Duty	29	29
Total	365	738
Women	75	83
Children :—Male	80	85
Female	81	83
Deaths during the Year.		
Men	7	7
Women	1	—
Children	19	5

No. 4.

RETURN of the ABORIGINAL INHABITANTS residing at the Station of OYSTER COVE on 31st December 1854 and 1855.

Year.	Male Aborigines.	Female Aborigines.	Male Children.	Total.	Officers on the Establishment.	Expense.
						£
1854	3	11	2	16	2	2,006
1855	3	10	2	15	1	1,225

SYNOPSIS of Tables Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Civil Condition.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Free persons	17,482	15,141	29,599	62,222
Convicts	5,398	2,342	—	7,740
Troops and families	738	83	168	989
Aborigines	3	10	2	15
Grand Total	23,621	17,576	29,769	70,966

No. 5.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of BIRTHS registered at the several Registry Offices in 1854 and 1855.

Year.	Male Children.	Female Children.	Total.
1854 - -	1,339	1,264	2,603
1855 - -	1,533	1,415	2,948

No. 6.

RETURN of the NUMBER of DEATHS registered in the several Registry Offices in 1854 and 1855.

Ages.	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.
Under 10 years of age - - -	523	438	453	357	976	795
10 and under 20 - - -	61	37	55	27	116	64
20 „ 30 - - -	78	78	57	62	135	140
30 „ 40 - - -	114	95	59	81	173	176
40 „ 50 - - -	118	107	55	61	173	168
50 „ 60 - - -	97	100	49	46	146	146
60 „ 70 - - -	68	75	28	26	96	101
70 „ 80 - - -	46	31	12	19	58	50
80 „ 90 - - -	21	17	3	6	24	23
90 „ 100 - - -	3	3	1	—	4	3
100 and upwards - - -	1	1	—	1	1	2
Age not known - - -	19	20	7	4	26	24
Total - -	1,149	1,002	779	690	1,928	1,692

The deaths of convicts are not registered by the Registrars of Births, Deaths, and Marriages; but these occurred in 1854 to the number of 128, and in 1855 to the number of 71.

No. 7.

RETURN of the NUMBER of MARRIAGES registered in the several Registry Offices in 1854 and 1855.

	1854.	1855.
Church of England - -	731	652
„ Scotland - - -	122	107
„ Rome - - -	317	313
Wesleyan - - - -	47	52
Independent - - -	113	78
Baptist - - - -	1	44
Jews - - - -	3	6
Quakers - - - - -	—	—
By Deputy Registrars - -	9	5
Total - -	1,343	1,257

No. 8.

RETURN showing the RELIGION of the INHABITANTS of TASMANIA, as ascertained by the latest Census; viz., that of 1st March 1851.

Church of England	45,073
„ Scotland	4,485
„ Rome	12,444
Wesleyans	3,772
Other Dissenters	2,379
Jews	435
Pagans and Mahommedans	21

No. 9.

RETURN showing the DISTINCTION between the MARRIED and SINGLE INHABITANTS (not including the Troops or Convicts under Punishment), as ascertained by the latest Census; viz., that of 1st March 1851.

Sex.	Married Persons.	Single, above 14 Years of Age.	Single, under 14 Years of Age.	Total.
Males	9,680	23,822	9,625	43,127
Females	9,771	6,215	9,496	25,482

No. 10.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of HOUSES in TASMANIA, as ascertained by the latest Census; viz., that of 1st March 1851.

Built of Stone or Brick.	Built of Wood.	Total.	Inhabited on 1st March 1851.	Uninhabited on 1st March 1851.
5,723	6,121	11,844	11,245	599

No. 11.

RETURN of IMMIGRATION and its EXPENSE during the Years 1854 and 1855.

	1854.	1855.
Immigrants at the public expense—		
Adult males	1,750	2,139
Ditto females	1,576	1,657
Children, male	419	916
Ditto, female	427	759
Immigrants at their own expense—		
Males	3,847	3,445
Females	1,307	1,394
Children	199	577
Total number of Immigrants	9,525	10,887
Expense of office, lodging, &c. £	4,505 13 5	6,331 11 7
Passage money of Immigrants £	18,627 14 10	95,038 0 0
Total expense incurred for Immigration £	23,133 8 3	101,369 11 7

TASMANIA.

No. 12.

RETURN showing the COUNTRIES from which the IMMIGRANTS ARRIVED in 1854 and 1855.

	1854.				1855.			
	Male.	Female.	Children.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Children.	Total.
From Great Britain -	751	1,489	705	2,945	1,773	1,449	1,410	4,632
Hamburg - -	3	—	—	3	366	208	265	839
New South Wales -	234	131	53	418	411	176	44	631
Victoria - -	4,561	1,241	278	6,080	3,001	1,194	516	4,711
South Australia -	14	9	3	26	14	13	10	37
New Zealand - -	18	5	3	26	13	2	4	19
United States -	1	2	1	4	—	—	—	—
Foreign States -	15	6	2	23	6	9	3	18
Total - -	5,597	2,883	1,045	9,525	5,584	3,051	2,252	10,887

No. 13.

RETURN of the NUMBER of PERSONS who have EMIGRATED from the Colony during the Years 1854 and 1855.

YEAR.	Persons who have always been Free.			Persons who have been Convicts.		Total.
	Male.	Female.	Children.	Male.	Female.	
1854	6,803	2,147	706	1,435	189	11,280
1855	4,458	1,694	501	343	59	7,055

No. 14.

RETURN of the VALUE of IMPORTS into the Colony during the Years 1854 and 1855.

YEAR.	From Great Britain.	From British Colonies.		From United States.	From Foreign States.	Total.
		North America.	Elsewhere.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1854	1,776,694	317	696,296	36,078	95,295	2,604,680
1855	920,695	—	540,824	3,638	94,640	1,559,797

No. 15.

RETURN of the VALUE of EXPORTS from TASMANIA in the Years 1854 and 1855.

YEAR.	To Great Britain.	To British Colonies.		To United States.	To Foreign States.	Total.
		North America.	Elsewhere.			
	£		£	£	£	£
1854	424,575	—	1,007,287	1,132	27	1,433,021
1855	445,557	—	969,079	—	13,993	1,428,629

No. 16.

RETURN of VESSELS engaged in the FISHERIES during the Years 1854 and 1855.

YEAR.	Description of Vessel.						Description and Value of Cargo disposed of by Foreign Ships.		
	Colonial.		British.		Foreign.				
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	Black Oil.	Whalebone.	Value.
							Tuns.	*Tons.*	£
1854	5	1,247	1	375	2	737	23	10	1,050
1855	17	3,566	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

No. 17.

RETURN of the NUMBER of VESSELS that ENTERED INWARDS and CLEARED OUTWARDS in 1854 and 1855.

COUNTRIES.	1854.				1855.			
	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.		Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Great Britain - -	91	39,678	19	8,303	57	30,095	17	7,638
British Colonies - -	941	152,185	930	164,064	793	121,928	813	137,383
South Sea Islands -	—	—	5	734	—	—	—	—
Fisheries - - -	9	2,690	14	3,680	19	4,601	—	—
United States of America -	2	1,307	2	587	1	310	1	269
Foreign States - -	14	2,752	58	23,030	15	4,278	40	13,966
Total -	1,057	198,612	1,028	200,398	885	161,212	871	159,256

No. 18.

RETURN of the NUMBER of SAILING VESSELS BUILT and REGISTERED during the Year 1854 and 1855.

	Vessels built.		Vessels registered.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
1854 -	10	401	90	10,344
1855 -	6	661	29	4,205

No. 19.

RETURN of STEAMERS belonging to Ports in TASMANIA on the 31st December 1854 and 1855.

Year.	Build.		Tonnage.	Steam Power.
	Wood.	Iron.		
1854 -	2	9	1,758	744
1855 -	1	13	2,011	851

TASMANIA.

No. 20.

RETURN of the QUANTITY of GOODS in the BONDING WAREHOUSES on 31st December 1854 and 1855.

ARTICLES.	In Hobart Town.		In Launceston.		Total.	
	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.
Cigars - - - Pounds	39,836	27,536	11,763	5,611	51,599	33,147
Coffee - - - „	147,495	19,184	—	—	147,495	19,184
Dried fruits - - „	12,264	5,364	—	—	12,264	5,364
Hops - - - „	5,765	—	—	—	5,765	—
Malt liquors - - Gallons	90,742	69,582	12,727	6,542	103,469	76,124
„ - - Doz. quarts	5,012	5,935	180	400	5,192	6,335
„ - - Doz. pints	—	628	—	—	—	628
Spirits, viz.:						
Brandy - - Gallons	88,293	25,597	23,969	13,655	112,262	39,252
Geneva - - „	29,420	8,845	12,491	3,072	41,911	11,917
Gin - - - „	20,315	4,099	4,795	1,973	25,110	6,072
Liqueurs - - „	647	321	19	622	666	943
Perfumed - - „	—	304	—	15	—	319
Rum - - „	42,597	39,759	18,596	16,022	61,193	55,781
Whiskey - - „	1,673	823	767	544	2,440	1,367
Sugars :						
Raw and molasses - Cwts.	3,316	—	185	—	3,501	—
Refined - - „	1,024	46	83	—	1,107	46
Tea - - - Pounds	438,854	121,987	18,178	—	457,032	121,987
Tobacco - - - „	141,001	78,392	45,463	38,766	186,464	117,158
Wines in wood - - Gallons	22,003	8,462	3,092	3,486	25,095	11,948
„ in bottle - - Doz. quarts	1,840	1,028	274	356	2,114	1,384
„ „ - Doz. pints	—	33	—	—	—	33

No. 21.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of STAGE COACHES employed upon the several Lines of Road in TASMANIA on the 31st December 1855.

	Distance.	Daily.	Six Times a Week.	Three Times a Week.	Twice a Week.	Total.
From Hobart Town to	Miles.					
Launceston - - -	121	1	—	1	—	2
Green Ponds - - - -	28	—	2	—	—	2
New Norfolk - - -	21	1	—	—	—	1
Richmond - - - -	15	—	1	—	1	2
Brown's River - - -	9	1	—	—	1	2
From Launceston to						
Hobart Town - - -	121	1	—	1	—	2
Perth and Longford - -	16	—	2	—	—	2
Evandale - - -	14	—	1	—	—	1
Westbury and Deloraine -	32	—	2	—	—	2

Two conveyances leave Campbell Town twice a week for Stoney Creek, Avoca, Fingal, Cullenswood, and Falmouth.

A two-horse conveyance leaves Green Ponds three times a week for Bothwell.

A conveyance leaves New Norfolk three times a week for Hamilton.

A two-horse conveyance leaves O'Brien's Bridge six times a week for Hobart Town; and three omnibuses run between Hobart Town and New Town each three times daily.

No. 22.

RETURN relative to LIGHTHOUSES, in 1854 and 1855.

Lighthouse, where situated.	Nature of the Light exhibited.	By whom managed.	Expenses of management.		Amount of Light Dues received.	
			1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.
			£	£	£	£
Kent's Group -	Revolving -	Officer and three men	1,105	1,122		
Swan Island - -	Revolving flash	Ditto - -	674	670		
Goose Island -	Fixed -	Ditto - -	563	564	5,050	6,040
Bruni Island - -	Revolving -	Ditto - -	595	619		
Iron Pot Island -	Fixed -	Officer and two men	467	751		
Low Head - -	Revolving -	Ditto - -	532	570		
			3,936	4,296		

No. 23.

RETURN of the AMOUNT of COIN in the Colony on the 31st December 1854 and 1855.

Year.	In the Military Chest.	In the Banks.	Total.	Decrease on previous Year.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1854 - -	40,000 0 0	995,368 17 3	1,035,368 17 3	339,983 2 11
1855 - -	20,000 0 0	665,586 9 9	685,586 9 9	349,782 7 6

It is supposed that about 20,000*l.* in specie is generally in circulation.

No. 24.

RETURN of the ASSETS and LIABILITIES of the several BANKS at the End of the Years 1854 and 1855.

	Bank of Van Diemen's Land.	Commercial Bank.	Bank of Australasia.	Union Bank of Australia.	Bank of Tasmania.
ASSETS.	£	£	£	£	£
Coin and Bullion—1854 - -	182,046	356,591	192,971	235,352	28,406
1855 - -	110,082	228,792	93.607	202,164	30,939
Bills of Exchange, &c.—1854 - -	244,360	352,113	358,486	373,596	85,919
1855 - -	283,515	420,933	419,406	393,803	111,046
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in Circulation—1854 - -	26,812	58,928	52,814	53,562	10,392
1855 - -	26,010	49,895	47,907	45,872	13,006
Deposits—1854 - - -	279,406	522,053	411,376	426,927	58,504
1855 - - -	224,830	462,284	322,132	353,315	73,648
TOTAL ASSETS—1854 - -	426,406	708,704	551,457	608,948	114,325
1855 - -	393,597	649,725	503,013	595,967	131,985
TOTAL LIABILITIES—1854 -	306,218	580,981	464,190	480,489	68,896
1855 -	250,840	512,179	470,039	399,187	86,654

No. 25.

RETURN of the REVENUE of the COLONY for the Years 1854 and 1855.

HEADS OF REVENUE.	1854.	1855.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs - - - - - -	182,489 7 10	161,821 17 1
Licences - - - - - -	23,917 11 0	26,143 17 0
Fines, Fees of court, &c. - - - -	9,379 1 4	15,132 6 1
Immigration deposits - - - -	7,773 10 0	2,092 6 1
Postage - - - - - -	6,701 3 3	7,808 13 2
Port and harbour dues - - - -	5,050 3 6	6,040 18 0
Tolls - - - - - -	2,464 11 6	2,550 14 8
Fees of office - - - - -	1,106 6 0	1,206 16 6
Rents - - - - - -	545 14 0	791 0 5
Quit rents - - - - - -	405 19 10	405 8 1
Sale of Government property - - -	168 14 10	1,226 5 3
Interest - - - - - -	20 5 4	26 7 5
Reimbursements in aid of expenses incurred - -	24,858 1 0	21,925 5 6
Deposit account - - - - -	6,412 15 7	4,814 10 2
Miscellaneous receipts - - - -	4,261 10 10	1,042 13 9
Transfers from other funds - - -	—	54,942 1 1
Advances to heads of departments returned - -	—	6,912 0 0
Debentures - - - - - -	—	6,860 0 0
Agent-General - - - - -	—	651 10 0
Convict discipline - - - -	—	141 13 4
Total - - £	275,554 15 10	322,536 3 7

No. 26.

RETURN of the LAND REVENUE of the COLONY for the Years 1854 and 1855.

HEADS OF REVENUE.	1854. £	s.	d.	1855. £	s.	d.
Sale of Crown land by auction	47,171	18	6	32,625	17	0
Ditto under regulations of November 1851	25,511	0	0	15,389	6	3
Licences to occupy Crown lands	25,141	12	8	24,168	15	8
Rent of Crown land selected for future purchase	4,010	11	7	3,414	14	2
Fees received by Surveyor-General	3,524	5	6	1,987	15	0
Fees for surveys	978	5	0	1,300	7	6
Fees for diagrams on grant deeds	152	17	6	187	5	0
Moiety of fines on grants	57	7	1	64	17	9
Quit rents subsequent to 1st April 1856	374	14	0	418	7	5
Ditto one third redemption	156	1	5	156	2	11
Royalty on coals	122	11	10	156	8	5
Repayments on account of passage money, &c.	3,466	10	0	1,949	0	0
Repayments by immigrants	74	15	0	19	13	9
Sales of Government property	273	6	6	3	3	0
Instalment of debt, Bridgewater Commissioners	500	0	0	—		
Interest from ditto	322	10	0	190	0	0
Rent of observatory building	50	0	0	83	6	8
Advertising in Gazette	0	17	6	3	7	6
Repayments by heads of departments	323	10	2	700	0	0
From Surveyor-General, salary forfeited	12	18	7	—		
Miscellaneous	—			2	14	0
Total £	112,225	12	7	82,821	1	10

No. 27.

RETURN of the EXPENDITURE of the COLONY for the Years 1854 and 1855.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE.	1854. £	s.	d.	1855. £	s.	d.
ESTABLISHMENTS :						
Civil and legislative	43,199	0	9	59,633	16	3
Police and gaols	61,855	12	3	76,190	16	9
Judicial	13,129	2	5	19,399	2	10
Ecclesiastical	12,757	9	4	20,263	9	2
Miscellaneous	22,147	14	9	559	9	5
SERVICES, EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS :						
Works and buildings	13,875	3	1	27,938	10	6
Roads and streets	11,572	7	7	14,982	6	7
Immigration	11,075	7	7	94,876	0	0
Conveyance of mails	4,996	17	9	7,372	9	9
Education	6,292	2	4	9,737	18	7
Charitable allowances	6,426	8	8	10,749	10	8
Stores and provisions	9,661	3	2	14,069	19	3
Remittances to Agent General	19,000	0	0	—		
Other Services	40,541	16	2	37,421	15	10
Total £	276,650	5	10	393,195	5	7

No. 28.

RETURN of the EXPENDITURE from the LAND FUND during the Years 1854 and 1855.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE.	1854.			1855.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Survey Department	16,102	3	7	15,230	14	0
Commissioners of Titles	994	18	0	707	12	0
Correspondence, collection, and audit of Land Revenue	2,111	5	6	2,099	1	8
Accountant of Stores	70	3	6	9	5	3
Aborigines	874	4	6	495	0	9
Public works	641	17	7	655	7	6
Immigration officers	1,437	15	3	1,872	15	1
Miscellaneous	5,766	15	2	997	18	4
Transport	89	2	5	208	7	10
Assessments	19,329	7	9	10,860	6	3
Rents	450	0	0	550	0	0
Charitable allowances	26	6	1	30	7	6
Roads, streets, and bridges	4,366	0	6	5,039	3	6
Works and Buildings	993	2	7	398	18	5
Survey of land	884	2	10	2,774	0	9
Immigration	9,420	12	8	1,732	15	9
Accountant of Stores	5,298	10	1	7,938	0	11
Advances to heads of Departments	350	0	0	1,000	0	0
Temporary increase to Salaries of Officers under Schedule C. Part 1.	6,788	0	1			
2.	3,506	8	5			
3.	10,181	0	4			
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	5,776	0	6
Military pensioners	-	-	-	200	0	0
Pensions	-	-	-	260	17	9
Transfers to other funds	-	-	-	54,942	1	1
Total £	89,681	16	9	113,778	14	10

No. 29.

RETURN of the EXPENDITURE during the Years 1854 and 1855 on account of MILITARY and CONVICT SERVICES.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE.	1854.			1855.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Commissariat, including provisions, fuel, and light for Army and Ordnance	59,600	15	2	45,729	11	7
Army services, staff and regimental	34,547	7	10	33,221	10	5
Ordnance and Engineer services	9,787	14	9	12,005	9	4
Advances in aid of other departments	3,408	2	10	3,782	3	3
Total Military	107,344	0	7	94,738	14	7
Convict services	172,973	18	8	141,249	6	4
Total £	280,317	19	3	235,988	0	11

Consignments of specie received in 1854 - £250,119
Ditto in 1855 - £86,248

No. 30.

RETURN of CROWN LAND, and of TOWN and SUBURBAN ALLOTMENTS sold, during the Years 1854 and 1855.

YEAR.	Country Allotments sold.									Town and Suburban Allotments sold.								
	Quantity sold.			Amount of Sale.			Average Price per Acre.			Quantity sold.			Amount of Sale.			Average Price per Acre.		
	A.	R.	P.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	A.	R.	P.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1854	32,433	1	30	34,157	11	0	1	1	0¾	2,245	2	31	41,962	7	0	18	13	8½
1855	21,508	1	11	22,845	2	6	1	1	2¼	3,102	1	0	28,971	10	3	9	6	9¼

No. 31.

RETURN relative to CROWN LANDS GRANTED, SOLD, or HELD UNDER DEPASTURING LICENCES in 1854 and 1855.

Number of Acres in the Colony.	Granted or sold up to the end of the Year.		Held under Depasturing Licences on 31st December.			
	Acres.		Acres.		Rental.	
	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.
14,482,892	2,804,183	2,828,793	2,284,214	2,160,534	£ 29,152	£ 27,583

No. 32.

RETURN of the NUMBER of ACRES in CROP, and the NATURE of the CROP, and PRODUCE in 1854 and 1855.

	1854.		1855.	
	Acres in Crop.	Produce.	Acres in Crop.	Produce.
Barley	10,547¾	125,835 bushels.	12,077	143,332 bushels.
Beans	29¾	653 „	63¾	1,186 „
Carrots	108¾	508 tons.	90¾	599¼ tons.
Hops	55	27 „	—	—
Mangel Wurzel	42¾	92 „	39¾	411 tons.
Oats	35,320½	526,457 bushels.	38,216½	666,264 bushels.
Peas	459	6,665 „	571	10,727 „
Potatoes	5,932½	23,256 tons.	8,916¾	36,984 tons.
Tares	303¼	1,467 bushels.	464	862 bushels.
Turnips	4,989¼	21,903 tons.	5,442¾	29,577 tons.
Wheat	42,920	790,588 bushels.	64,898¾	1,212,027 bushels.
English Grasses	27,023¾	18,886 tons.	22,345¾	14,498 tons.
	127,732		153,126¾	

Other land was under cultivation, but not in crop, to the extent of 41,758 acres on 31st December 1855.

No. 33.

RETURN of the NUMBER of LIVE STOCK in the Colony on 31st December 1854 and 1855.

	1854.	1855.
Horses	17,384	18,358
Horned Cattle	103,752	110,304
Sheep	1,831,308	1,835,902
Goats	1,629	3,055
Pigs	22,598	22,331
Asses	14	13
Mules	5	6

No. 34.

RETURN of the NUMBER of POST OFFICES and of LETTERS and NEWSPAPERS passing through the General Post Office, Hobart Town, for 1854 and 1855.

	1854.	1855.
Post Offices and Receiving-houses	65	67
Number of Persons employed	95	103
Miles of Post Roads	679	679
Letters sent from Hobart Town	231,597	211,592
Newspapers sent from Hobart Town	218,000	459,167
Letters received	204,414	214,743
Newspapers received	122,500	147,577
Penny Post — Hobart — Franked letters	13,669	7,575
Penny Post — Hobart — Unfranked letters	35,499	43,281
Penny Post — Launceston — Franked letters	199	90
Penny Post — Launceston — Unfranked letters	15,123	23,125
Revenue of Post Office	£ 8,198	£ 9,308
Expenditure	16,291	18,473

No. 35.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CIVIL CASES tried in the SUPREME COURT in 1854 and 1855.

YEAR.	Before Juries of Twelve.		Before Juries of Four.		Total.
	Common and Mixed.	Special.	Defended.	Undefended.	
1854	12	8	18	2	40
1855	43		—	1	44

No. 36.

RETURN of PROCESS issued out of the COURT OF REQUESTS during the Years 1854 and 1855.

District.	Summonses issued.		Fieri Facias.		Capias ad Satisfaciendum.		Actions tried.	
	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.
Hobart Town	513	501	123	136	1	—	296	284
Launceston	84	188	17	24	—	1	39	75
Richmond	20	19	—	—	—	—	11	13
New Norfolk	32	37	—	—	—	—	15	22
Oatlands	33	20	—	1	—	—	17	14
Campbell Town	28	30	—	4	—	—	15	15
Longford	64	40	10	5	—	—	37	22
Total	774	835	152	170	1	1	430	445

No. 37.

RETURN of the NUMBER of INSOLVENCIES in 1854 and 1855.

	Number of Persons who have been declared Insolvent by their Creditors.	Amount of Scheduled Assets.	Amount of Scheduled Liabilities.	Number of Persons who have declared themselves Insolvent.	Amount of Scheduled Assets.	Amount of Scheduled Liabilities.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Hobart, 1854	2	107 0 0	1,133 17 6	31	32,414 19 0	67,769 18 5
„ 1855	5	12,965 8 5	13,893 8 5	64	64,201 6 4	58,093 19 5
Launceston, 1854	2	4,295 7 8	4,639 10 0	8	4,580 19 10	25,863 7 4
„ 1855	3	5,960 0 0	16,057 0 0	41	17,431 9 0	40,914 17 0

No. 38.

RETURN of CONVICTIONS in the SUPREME COURT in 1854 and 1855.

YEAR.	Felonies.	Misdemeanors.	Total.
1854	98	7	105
1855	97	16	113

No. 39.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CONVICTIONS before the COURTS of QUARTER SESSIONS in 1854 and 1855.

	Crimes against the Person.		Crimes against Property.		Total.	
	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.
Hobart Town	16	18	69	60	85	78
Launceston	18	17	45	59	63	76
Richmond	—	15	8	1	8	16
Campbell Town	—	—	—	—	—	—
Longford	—	2	—	15	—	17
New Norfolk	—	—	6	14	6	14
Oatlands	—	1	—	30	—	31
	34	53	128	179	162	232

No. 40.

RETURN of the NUMBER of GAOLS in TASMANIA, with the NUMBER of PRISONERS in CONFINEMENT, at Michaelmas of the Years 1854 and 1855.

	1854.	1855.
Number of Gaols	7	7
Capable of containing in separate cells	132	127
,, if more than one prisoner sleeps in a cell	565	550
Number of prisoners confined at Michaelmas	113	134
Debtors in confinement	2	3
Total cases of sickness in the year	143	166
Deaths during the year	1	1

No. 41.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CRIMINALS EXECUTED in the Colony in 1854 and 1855.

	1854.	1855.
Persons who have been convicts	4	3
Convicts	3	3
	7	6

No. 42.

SYNOPSIS of the METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS for the Years 1854 and 1855.

——	1854.	1855.
	Inches.	*Inches.*
Mean pressure of the Year, corrected down to the standard temperature of 32° Fahrenheit.	29·785	29·746
Quantity of rain which fell - - - -	30·56	18·25
	Degrees.	*Degrees.*
Mean temperature of the year - - - -	53·03	58·06

REMARKS FOR 1854.—Thunder-storms in January, March, October, November; hot winds, January, from N.W.; gale of wind, February, from S.S.W., accompanied by a torrent of rain, 8¾ inches having fallen in 38 hours; gale from S.E., 22d March, also attended with heavy rain, and causing a flood; gale from N.W., 16th September, lasting 24 hours.

REMARKS FOR 1855.—The maximum temperature of the year 1855 was 96°; the minimum was 30°; the maximum solar intensity, black bulb thermometer, was 132°; thunder-storm in October; high winds, March, May, August, November.

No. 43.

RETURN of DISEASES TREATED at HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL HOSPITALS in HOBART TOWN and LAUNCESTON in 1854 and 1855.

Diseases.	Cases treated.		Deaths.	
	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.
Diseases of stomach and bowels -	604	968	12	15
,, of lungs - - -	538	917	58	49
Abscesses and ulcers - -	489	573	3	5
Diseases of the eyes - - -	330	252	—	—
Rheumatic affections - -	287	362	3	6
Diseases of the brain - -	255	175	34	13
Wounds and injuries - -	247	293	6	2
Venereal diseases - - -	106	160	2	7
Diseases of the skin - -	60	31	—	—
Fevers - - - -	46	24	3	—
Dropsies - - - -	21	27	11	15
Diseases of the liver - -	18	20	4	4
Other Diseases - - -	448	658	32	31
Total - -	3,449	4,460	168	147

In 1855 there were 3,030 cases treated, and 45 deaths, at the Hospitals on Tasman's Peninsula, where all the Invalid Convicts, and nearly all of those under punishment, are stationed.

No. 44.

RETURN of PERSONS TREATED in the LUNATIC ASYLUMS on the 31st December 1854 and 1855.

——	1854.			1855.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admitted during the year - -	60	19	79	26	19	45
Discharged during the year :—						
Cured - - - -	26	23	49	10	9	19
Improved - - -	2	—	2	3	4	7
To friends without improvement	8	—	8	—	2	2
Died - - - -	25	6	31	4	6	10
*Escaped - - - -	6	—	6	2	—	2
Number remaining at the end of the year :—						
Free - - - -	53	33	86	54	38	92
Convicts - - -	111	42	153	46	35	81

* Recaptured.

TASMANIA.

No. 45.

RETURN of the PRINCIPAL MANUFACTORIES and TRADES in operation in the Colony at the end of 1854 and 1855.

TRADES, &c.	1854.	1855.	TRADES, &c.	1854.	1855.
Agricultural implement makers	21	28	Gunsmiths	7	8
Auctioneers	19	24	Ironmongers	21	22
Bakers	102	105	Maltsters	13	16
Basket makers	15	9	Mast and block makers	9	9
Blacksmiths	144	159	Mills, wind and water	51	54
Bonedust manufactories	1	2	Ditto, steam	23	28
Brassfoundries	6	6	Painters and glaziers	41	34
Brewers	42	40	Pastrycooks	31	32
Bricklayers (master)	71	88	Pianoforte makers	2	4
Builders (ditto)	43	54	Potteries	4	4
Butchers	151	157	Printing offices	13	13
Cabinet makers and joiners	38	51	Publicans	378	400
Candle manufactories	9	13	Ropemakers	2	3
Carpenters	109	147	Sailmakers	9	8
Carvers and gilders	4	4	Sawmills	16	22
Chemists	22	21	Shipwrights and boat-builders	25	28
Cider makers	6	4	Shoemakers	254	330
Coachmakers	6	7	Soapboilers	4	4
Cooperages	13	13	Starch manufactories	1	1
Corn and ship chandlers	20	17	Stonemasons (master)	55	88
Dyers	1	1	Tailors (ditto)	84	102
Engineers	15	23	Tanners	27	30
Fellmongers	28	26	Tinworkers	31	30
Foundries	5	5	Tobacconists	16	20
Furriers	9	12	Turners	10	16
General dealers	343	373	Watchmakers	22	29
Glue and size makers	6	6	Wheelwrights	72	78
Goldbeaters	1	1	Wine merchants	30	35
Grocers	48	63	Woolstaplers	7	9

No. 46.

RETURN of the AVERAGE WAGES paid to MECHANICS and LABOURERS during 1854 and 1855, without Board and Lodging.

	Hobart Town.				Launceston.		In the Interior.					
	1854.		1855.		1854.	1855.	1854.			1855.		
	s.	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*s.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*
Bricklayers	15	0	16	0	12	10	8	0 to	20	7	6 to	18
Carpenters	13	0	15	0	13	10	8	0 „	15	7	6 „	16
Joiners	13	6	15	0	14	12	8	0 „	15	8	0 „	15
Masons, cutters	15	0	18	0	14	13	7	6 „	15	9	0 „	18
Ditto, builders	16	0	18	0	18	15	8	0 „	20	10	0 „	18
Painters	12	0	14	0	12	10	7	6 „	20	8	0 „	15
Plumbers	14	0	14	0	16	13	8	0 „	20	6	0 „	15
Plasterers	15	0	16	0	12	10	7	0 „	15	8	0 „	15
Quarrymen	8	6	10	0	9	8	6	0 „	15	5	0 „	10
Labourers	5*s.* to 10*s.*		6	6	5*s.* to 10*s.*	7	5	0 „	15	5	0 „	15

No. 47.

RETURN showing the AVERAGE PRICES of PROVISIONS at HOBART TOWN, on 31st December 1854 and 1855.

	1854.			1855.				1854.			1855.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*		£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Beer, Colonial, per gallon	0	2	0	0	2	0	Soap, per pound	0	0	4	0	0	4
Bread, per pound	0	0	4½	0	0	3½	Starch, ditto	0	0	9	0	0	9
Butter, fresh, ditto	0	2	6	0	2	4	Tobacco, ditto	0	4	0	0	4	6
Butter, salt, ditto	0	2	0	0	2	0	Meat.—Beef, ditto	0	0	6	0	0	6½
Candles, tallow, ditto	0	1	0	0	0	9	Mutton, ditto	0	0	6	0	0	6
Cheese, Colonial, ditto	0	1	6	0	2	0	Veal, ditto	0	1	0	0	1	0
Coffee, ditto	0	1	6	0	2	0	Pork, ditto	0	1	2	0	1	0
Flour, fine, per cwt.	1	18	0	2	0	0	Bacon	0	1	9	0	1	9
Oil, lamp, per gallon	0	12	0	0	12	0	Ham, ditto	0	1	9	0	1	9
Rice, per pound	0	0	5	0	0	5	Coals.—Pt. Arthur, per ton	2	10	0	1	10	0
Tea, Hyson-skin, ditto	0	2	6	0	2	6	New Town, ditto	1	10	0	1	5	0
Sugar, brown, ditto	0	0	3	0	0	3½	Douglas river, do.	1	15	0	1	17	6
Sugar, loaf, ditto	0	0	6	0	0	6	Firewood, cut up into billets, per ton	1	10	0	1	0	0
Salt, ditto	0	0	2	0	0	2	Firewood, in log, per ton	1	0	0	0	17	0
Potatoes, per cwt.	1	8	0	0	15	0							

No. 48.

RETURN relative to the GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS on 31st December 1854 and 1855.

Year.	Number of Schools aided by Government.	Number of Male Scholars.	Number of Female Scholars.	Total.	Expense of the Schools to the Government.
					£ s. d.
1854 - -	50	1,635	1,266	2,901	7,269 2 4
1855 - -	63	1,941	1,436	3,377	9,352 1 7

No. 49.

RETURN relative to the QUEEN'S ORPHAN SCHOOLS in 1854 and 1855.

	1854.	1855.
Boys chargeable on Colonial Funds -	67	92
Girls ditto - -	53	73
Boys chargeable on Convict Funds - -	171	139
Girls ditto - -	131	101
Number of cases of Sickness in the year -	775	823
Number of Deaths during the year - -	53	38
Number of Boys admitted during the year -	79	66
Number of Girls ditto -	70	62
Number of Boys discharged or apprenticed during the year - - - -	56	52
Number of Girls, ditto - - - -	63	55
Total number of Boys in the School -	238	231
Total number of Girls ditto - -	184	174

No. 50.

RETURN relative to MUNICIPALITIES and ROAD TRUSTS in 1854 and 1855.

Corporate Body.		1854.		1855.	
		Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
		£	£	£	£
Municipality	Hobart Town - -	23,201	17,777	19,481	18,986
	Launceston - - -	7,323	5,762	6,551	5,569
Road Trust	Hamilton - - - -	5,145	3,263	2,893	2,893
	Longford - - -	4,306	3,897	—	—
	Westbury - -	2,438	2,011	—	—
	Glamorgan - - -	2,191	1,794	2,718	2,718
	Morven - - -	1,533	1,193	—	—
	Swanport - - -	806	372	—	—
	Oatlands - - -	777	122	—	—
	Great Lake - - - -	684	155	—	—
	Lower Derwent - -	580	1,193	—	—
	Brown's River - - -	461	213	—	—
	Pembroke - - -	437	257	—	—
	Breadalbane - - - -	364	288	—	—
	Sorell - - - -	275	231	588	707
	Horton - - -	261	98	307	142
	Richmond - - -	204	93	665	665
	Devon - - -	1,236	951	2,064	2,323
	Upper Derwent - - -	—	—	474	474
	Broad Marsh - - -	—	—	318	95
	Chudleigh - - -	—	—	627	605
	Northern Macquarie - -	—	—	461	461
	Bothwell - - -	—	—	1,406	1,406

No. 51.

RETURN of the AMOUNT and NUMBER of MORTGAGES on LAND registered in 1854 and 1855.

Year.	Mortgages registered.	Amount.
		£
1854 -	293	316,463
1855* -	299	329,714

* In this year 118,502*l.* were paid in satisfaction and discharge of Mortgages registered in former years; thus making the increase of debt 211,212*l.* only.

TASMANIA.

No. 52.

RETURN relative to the CONSERVANCY of the PEACE, 1854 and 1855.

	1854.	1855.
Country gentlemen	113	110
Officers holding civil appointments	49	30
Merchants and bankers	31	31
Naval and military officers, retired or on half pay	20	36
Surgeons	15	26
Naval and military officers on full pay	9	2
Clergymen	9	—
Other gentlemen in the principal towns	9	8
Barristers	3	5
Total	258	248

[*Compiled from Official Records in the office of the Private Secretary by Hugh Munro Hull.*]

Encl. 2. in No. 38.

Enclosure 2. in No. 38.

FINGAL GOLD FIELDS.

Memorial to the Governor.

On Saturday a deputation consisting of Messrs. T. D. Chapman, M.L.C., A. H. Maning, and L. Roope, waited upon his Excellency at Government House, and presented him with the following address:—

To his Excellency Sir H. E. F. Young, &c. &c.

Hobart Town, May 15, 1856.

We, the undersigned merchants, bankers, and traders of Hobart Town, being deeply impressed that a paying gold-field would be of great benefit to this colony, more especially at the present time, and feeling satisfied that such is to be found at Fingal, take leave most respectfully to crave that your Excellency will, out of the public funds, defray the expenses of such an expedition to Fingal as will determine the existence or non-existence there of gold in quantity.

Signed by 116 persons.

We feel assured, that, in accordance with this request, your Excellency would be complying with the wish of almost the whole of the population on this side of the island, give to trade a great impetus, and generally satisfy the colonists at large.

Signed by 57 persons.

A similar address was also presented from the bankers, merchants, and traders of Launceston.

His Excellency received the deputation courteously, but intimated that he could take no steps in the matter until he had taken the advice of the Executive Council. From his Excellency's manner, however, the deputation were of opinion that he was favourable to the project.

Both addresses were numerously and influentially signed, and a much larger number of signatures would have been obtained had longer time been allowed for procuring them.

Mr. M'Naughtan was to have accompanied the deputation, but was unavoidably prevented.

GENTLEMEN, Colonial Secretary's Office, May 23, 1856.

I have the honour to inform you, that the Governor has had under consideration in the Executive Council your memorial to his Excellency of the 15th instant, together with a similar application from certain residents in Launceston, requesting that the expense of an expedition to Fingal, for the purpose of satisfactorily ascertaining the existence or otherwise of gold in quantity, may be defrayed from the public funds.

I reply, I am to acquaint you that the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has decided upon acceding to your request, and has approved of a sum not exceeding 2,000*l.* being appropriated for the purpose; it having been represented by a deputation which waited on his Excellency that that sum will be sufficient to carry out the object of the memorialists.

It appears to his Excellency in Council that the whole direction and management of this enterprise may be properly intrusted to a Committee to be selected by the memorialists themselves, and to include one or more Government officers; and I am to suggest that you should place yourselves in communication with those gentlemen at Launceston who have also addressed his Excellency, in order to ascertain the views of the memorialists as to the

necessary steps which it may be requisite to take for carrying into effect the object desired.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your very obedient servant,
(Signed) W. Champ.

T. D. Chapman, Esq., and the other Gentlemen signing the memorial of the 15th instant.

Mr. Maning proposed that the thanks of the meeting be given to his Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council for their prompt attention to the memorial of the colonists.

Mr. Roope seconded this motion, which, like the former ones, was carried unanimously.

Government Notice.

No. 86.

Colonial Secretary's Office, May 31, 1856.

The Governor directs it to be notified, that, though in the uncertainty which exists as yet respecting the extent and richness of the gold-fields in this colony, the Government will not interfere in any way, for the present, with the operations of those who may desire to search for gold on land the property of the Crown, or discourage their efforts by the imposition of a licence fee,—it is yet considered necessary, with the view of obtaining accurate information as to the number of miners, and also of checking any excesses that may be committed by disorderly characters, that every person desirous of digging for gold shall register his name and ordinary place of abode at the police office of the district in which he wishes to carry on his operations; and, in order to enforce this regulation, no person will be permitted to dig on Crown land until he shall have conformed thereto.

By his Excellency's command,
W. Champ.

Tasmanian Gold Fields.

The Committee appointed to direct the disposal of the Government grant for 2,000*l.* to be expended in testing the extent and value of the Fingal gold fields, hereby notify,—

That, from and after Monday the 23d instant, practical diggers, to the number of one hundred, disposed to work in the Fingal gold-fields, will be supplied, free of cost, with tents, tools, and the following rations; viz.;—

14lbs. meat,
12lbs. flour,
6 oz. tea,
3lbs. sugar,

per man per week, on application to Mr. Robert Cox, of Fingal, the superintendent appointed by the Committee.

The diggers will be allowed all the gold they may find, and will also have the additional chance of obtaining the large reward (now in course of collection, and expected to amount to upwards of 10,000*l.*) offered to the discoverers of a profitable gold-field in Tasmania.

No licence fee nor export duty charged by the Government of Tasmania.

Coaches leave Hobart Town and Launceston direct for Fingal twice a week, and steamer weekly for Falmouth.

By order of the Committee,
(Signed) George Whitcombe,
Honorary Secretary

Royal Exchange, Hobart Town,
4th June, 1856.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

No. 39.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

No. 39.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 113.)

Government House, Adelaide, August 10, 1856.

Sir, (Received November 21, 1856.)

1. I have the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of this colony for the year 1855. The greatly increased work in the Colonial Secretary's Office, occasioned by the protracted Session of 1855-6, which lasted till the 19th June, rendered it impossible to furnish me with the Blue Book till the 1st inst.

2. As I am under the necessity of leaving town immediately for some weeks, I am unwilling to add to the delay which has already occurred in the transmission of the Blue Book and the accompanying returns, by waiting for leisure to compile the usual explanatory Report with which it should be accompanied. I would regret this the more if a great portion of the year 1855, to which the enclosed returns refer, had not elapsed before my assumption of this Government.

3. As in some measure a substitute for the detailed Report, which for the above reasons I am unable on this occasion to supply, I transmit an abstract of the principal returns of the Blue Book, compiled by the Assistant Colonial Secretary, Mr. Hitchin, and which contains in a compendious form the information most necessary.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL,
Governor.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 39.

Enclosure in No. 39.

Enclosure to Despatch No. 113, of the 10th August 1856, from Governor Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, C.B., to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, being an epitome of the principal particulars detailed in the Blue Book of this colony for the year 1855, with additional information not included therein.

Population.

In the following table the actual population (exclusive of aborigines) on the 31st March 1855, as ascertained by the census taken on that date, is contrasted with the estimated population at the close of the year, as arrived at from official records kept for the purpose, viz:—

	Males.			Females.			Grand Totals.
	Under 14 years.	14 years and over.	Totals.	Under 14 years.	14 years and over.	Totals.	
31st March 1855, as per census - -	16,779	27,398	44,177	16,735	24,909	41,644	85,821
31st December 1855, as estimated - -	18,505	30,338	48,843	18,696	29,848	48,544	97,387

The foregoing tabular statement shews that the population was increased during the last three quarters of 1855, through the excess of immigration over emigration, and that of births over deaths, by no less than 11,566 souls.

It also makes apparent, that in obtaining that addition to the population, the sexual proportions of the inhabitants of the colony became very nearly equalized;

as explanatory of the cause of which it may be stated that a great number of the Government immigrants sent here by the Emigration Commissioners during the period in question, were single Irish females.

The following is a summarized recapitulation of that portion of the census abstract which describes the occupations followed by the colonists at the date of its compilation, viz. :—

Professional persons, 769 (including 108 persons described as "engineers," many of whom are probably working engineers); ministers of religion, 97; merchants, 269; clerks, 447; retail dealers, trades, and handicrafts, 5,296; farmers and stockholders, 5,558; farm labourers, shepherds, and stockmen, 6,443; publicans, 353; miners, 840; carriers, 391; gardeners, 393; domestic servants of both sexes, 4,126; mariners and fishermen, 338; other persons male and female, including 632 not able to be classified for want of returns, 60,501.

The births, marriages, and deaths, officially registered in 1855 and in the preceding year, were in number respectively as follows :—

	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.
In 1854	3,451	928	1,346
In 1855	3,944	629	1,663

The deaths registered in 1855 may be classified as under :—

Under 2 years of age	885
Over 2 and under 10 years	186
Over 10 and under 30 years	196
Over 30 and under 50 years	219
Over 50 years of age	112
Ages unknown	65
Total	1,663

Annexed is a copy of the Registrar General's return exhibiting the causes of the deaths registered in Adelaide only; those received from the country districts not containing statements enabling the return to be made complete. Appendix A. (being very voluminous, is not printed).

Seventy-six coroner's inquests were holden on deceased persons during the year, but the deaths of only seventy-one of those persons were registered prior to the 31st December.

The verdicts recorded have been classified under the following heads, viz. :—

Accidental deaths	22
Apoplexy	4
Coup de soleil	2
Natural causes	13
Poison	7
Manslaughter	2
Murder	3
Visitation of God	4
Not specially recorded	14
	71

Pauperism.

The deficient harvest of 1854 caused the number of persons supported at the cost of the public during the first half of 1855 to be considerably beyond the average number of the recipients of relief previous to that time; and, as the influx of immigrants in the succeeding half year was in excess of the immediate demand for labour, the numbers receiving relief were further largely augmented during that period.

The following extracts from the records will serve to illustrate the extent of the temporary increase of destitution, viz. :—

The number of persons on the books of the Destitute Board were,—

	In door.	Out door.	Totals.
On the 31st December 1854	—	—	254
On the 30th June 1855	261	915	1,176
On the 31st December 1855	279	1,013	1,292

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The total numbers relieved during the years 1854 and 1855 were severally,—

		No.
In 1854		685
In 1855, half year ended 30th June	2,025	5,387
„ „ 31st December	3,362	

In order to assist in disburthening the Government from the duty of supporting the unemployed adult male immigrants, they were offered work at a Government quarry near Adelaide, with remuneration at the rate of 4*s.*, 3*s.* 6*d.*, or 3*s.* per diem, according to ability; that wage having been decided on as being the minimum rate upon which working men could subsist, and as therefore not interfering with the natural action of the labour market.

The plan was found to work well, and the immigrants were gradually engaged by private employers.

Crime, Misdemeanors, and Litigation.

The number of convictions in the Supreme Court during the year were	77
The number of criminal trials (not being felonies), assaults, misdemeanors, and cases of drunkenness, heard and determined at local courts in the colony in 1855, were	2,051
The number of information under Acts of Council heard and determined	1,670
The number of causes on the civil side heard and determined (the number of plaints entered was, of course, much greater)	2,410

No criminal execution took place in South Australia, during 1855.

Diseases and Climate.

Hospital.—The total number of patients admitted into the Adelaide Hospital in the year 1855 was—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Without payment of fees	280	262	
With ditto	59	5	
	339	267	606
The number of admissions in 1854 having been	464	113	577
Of those patients, the number who died were,			
in 1854	42	23	65
in 1855	45	36	81

The average duration of the stay of patients in hospital was—

	In 1854.	In 1855.
In cases of acute disease	23 days.	24½ days.
„ chronic „	98 „	103½ „

The average daily cost of each patient was, in 1854, 1*s.* 9½*d.*; and in 1855, 2*s.* 1¼*d.*

	Male.	Female.
Lunatic Asylum.—The average daily number of lunatics treated during 1854 was	22	16
Of whom there remained in charge on 1st January 1855	22	14
The average daily number having been increased in 1855, by admissions, to	38	22

The number of lunatics who died in confinement in 1854 were 7; and in 1855, 11.

The average daily cost of each lunatic was 1*s.* 9½*d.* during 1854, and 1*s.* 7¼*d.* in 1855.

Meteorological.—The extreme range of the barometer in Adelaide, at the hours of 10½ a.m. and 3½ p.m., extended from 30·96 in March, to 29.18 in April; the general averages of the twelve months giving the following result:—

Maximum.	Mean.	Minimum.
30.28	30.09	29.64

The temperature varied in Adelaide, during the above-named five hours, at its greatest extreme, from 108° in January to 50° in August; the general averages of the year working out to—

Maximum.	Mean.	Minimum.
°	°	°
80	67·94	59·45

The total rain-fall in Adelaide during the year amounted to 22·32 inches; the greatest fall in any one month having been 3·76 inches in May; and January having been the only month without rain, even on the Adelaide plains.

Agriculture.

A greater extent of land was under cultivation in 1855 than in any preceding year, and the harvest was a favourable one, the wheat crop having been estimated as averaging about 18 bushels to the acre. No statistics were collected.

The exportation of hay to Victoria, which had been so prominent a feature during the two preceding years, only amounted, in 1855, to 372½ tons, valued at 3,614*l.*; the exports of that article having been, in 1853, 3,167¼ tons, value 38,082*l*; and in 1854, 5,326½ tons, value 83,289*l.*

The total comparative declared values of grain and other farm and dairy produce of the colony, exported in 1854 and 1855, were as follows:—

	1854.	1855.
Butter - -	£5,562	£1,231
Cheese - -	266	154
Corn and meal -	316,267	237,135
Eggs - - -	323	42
Hay - -	83,289	3,614
Potatoes - -	2,432	5
	£408,139	£242,181

The following were the Adelaide prices of—

	Fine flour, per ton of 2,000lbs.	Wheat, per bushel.	Oats, per bushel.	Barley, English, per bushel.	Potatoes, per ton.	Hay, per ton.
1854:	£ s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Maximum - -	33 0 0	14 0	9 9	9 3	45 0 0	11 11 0
Average - -	30 10 0	12 0	8 6	9 0	35 0 0	9 5 0
1855:						
Maximum - -	48 0 0	21 0	7 9	10 0	30 0 0	10 10 0
Average - -	41 0 0	15 6	6 9	8 0	23 0 0	8 0 0

Bread at Adelaide ranged, in 1854, from 3*d.* to 4*d.* per lb., the average price being 4*d.* per lb.; in 1855, from 3*d.* to 6*d.* per lb., the average price being 4¾*d.* per lb.

Imports and Exports.

The values of articles imported and exported (exclusive of bullion and coin) during the years 1854 and 1855, were—

Imports:—1854 - 2,054,453*l.* - - 1855 - 1,355,784*l.*
Exports:—1854 - 823,104*l.* - - 1855 - 839,915*l.*

It is, however, necessary, that the values of those exports should be subdivided as under, viz.:—

	1854.	1855.
Value of staple produce of South Australia -	£694,422	£686,953
,, imports re-exported (other than bullion and coin) - - -	128,682	152,962
	£823,104	£839,915

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

And, in order to arrive at the gross import and export totals, the following amounts must be added, as representing the value of the bullion and coin imported and exported:—

Imported:—1854 - 92,654*l.* - - 1855 - 15,154*l.*
Exported:—1854 - 499,718*l.* - - 1855 - 148,300*l.*

Of the above stated values of staple produce, the principal items (other than those ascribed to farm produce, which have been herein quoted under the head "Agriculture") appear, by the Customs returns, to have been—

	1854.	1855.
Tallow - - -	£533	£368
Wool - - -	182,419	243,504
Copper and copper ore -	94,706	150,027
Lead and lead ore -	425	3,730

The tonnage of vessels entered inwards and outwards was as follows:—

	Great Britain.	British Colonies.	Foreign States.	Totals.	Grand Totals.
1854:	*Tons.*	*Tons.*	*Tons.*	*Tons.*	*Tons.*
Inwards - -	60,369	78,916	7,381	146,666	290,534
Outwards - -	8,394	102,892	32,582	143,868	
1855:					
Inwards - -	55,040	40,163	10,639	105,842	212,811
Outwards - -	6,382	65,068	35,519	106,969	

Exchanges, &c.

During the years 1854 and 1855 the variations in the course of exchange, as taken from the operations of the three banks at Adelaide, were—

	Year 1854.		Year 1855.	
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.
Bank drafts on London, at 30 days' sight, issued at - -	5 per cent. prem., in 4th quarter.	1 per cent. prem., in 1st quarter.	4 per cent. prem., in 3rd quarter.	2 per cent. prem., in 2nd quarter.
Bills on London, at 30 days' sight, purchased at -	2 per cent. prem., in 3rd and 4th quarters.	1 per cent. disct., in 1st quarter.	2 per cent. prem., in 3rd quarter.	Par, in 2nd quarter.
Bank drafts on the neighbouring colonies, at 3 days' sight, issued at - -	1 per cent. prem., in 3rd and 4th quarters.	¼ per cent. prem., in 1st quarter.	1½ per cent. prem., in 4th quarter.	1 per cent. prem., in 3 first quarters.
Bills on the neighbouring colonies, at 15 days' sight, purchased at - - -	2 per cent. disct., in 3rd and 4th quarters.	1 per cent. disct., in 1st quarter.	1 per cent. disct., 3 last quarters.	Par, in 1st quarter.

The contrast between the bank notes in circulation and the bullion and coin in the bank coffers during 1855, shews as follows:—

The average total of the paper currency of the three local banks in circulation during 1855 was - - £228,917 0 0
The average value of the specie and gold bullion in their coffers during that year was - - - 735,234 0 0

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenues of the colony during the years 1854 and 1855 amounted to—

	1854.	1855.
Ordinary revenue	£200,774 8 5	£186,233 7 3
Land fund revenue	394,581 6 3	272,316 15 6
Total	595,355 14 8	458,550 2 9
To which may be added amounts received as proceeds of bonds sold	104,654 5 0	45,700 0 0
Total receipts of years	£700,010 19 8	£504,250 2 9

The expenditure reached—

	In 1854.	In 1855.
As charges against the ordinary revenue (exclusive of expenditure to defray which loans have been specially sanctioned by Acts)	£328,884 4 3	£274,495 0 3
Land fund charges, as far as known in the colony	93,524 14 9	420,109 18 8
Or a total of	422,408 19 0	694,604 18 11
To which may be added the expenditure under Loan Acts for the City and Port Railway, the Gawler Town Railway, and for harbour improvements	64,404 0 1	115,722 9 9
Total	£486,812 19 1	£810,327 8 8

It will thus be seen that the large balances remaining in hand on the 1st January 1855, were for the most part expended during that year.

Provision was made in the estimates of 1855 for the transfer of a sum of 60,000*l.* from the Crown moiety of the land fund to the ordinary revenue in aid of the cost of public works, being the course adopted during several past years, in order to bring those works into the ordinary estimates, and thus place them under the control of the legislature; but the state of that fund did not permit of that transfer being effected.

At the close of the year 1855 the loan account was indebted to the treasurer for advances made in excess of the value of bonds sold, in the sum of 31,771*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*

The total balance in hand on the 31st December 1855 (irrespective of the immigration moiety of the land fund) was	£96,967 5 8
And the estimated charges against that balance, brought forward in estimates as authorized to be expended in 1856	81,220 9 8
Leaving available as an addition to revenue of 1856	£15,746 16 0

Education.

The licensing of teachers desirous of becoming recipients of the Government aid, and the supervision of their schools, is still vested in the Central Board of Education, a body constituted under Act No. 20 of 1851.

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The stipends paid to teachers (irrespective of the temporary increase of 50 per cent.) are 40*l*., 50*l*., or 60*l*. per annum, according to the capability of the teacher.

The number of licensed schools and teachers had increased from 125, with 5,464 pupils, at close of 1854, to 138, with 5,776 pupils, at close of 1855.

The education of these children cost (official salaries included), in 1854, 3*l*. 5*s*. $1\frac{1}{2}d$. per head, of which the state contributed 1*l*. 15*s*. $5\frac{3}{4}d$. and the friends of the children 1*l*. 9*s*. $7\frac{3}{4}d$.; whilst the cost in 1855 was 3*l*. 8*s*. $7\frac{1}{4}d$. per head, of which the state contributed 1*l*. 18*s*. $10\frac{1}{2}d$. and the friends of the children 1*l*. 9*s*. $8\frac{3}{4}d$.

The total sum expended by this Government in 1855 for educational purposes amounted to 11,127*l*. 8*s*. 3*d*.

The Board expends 1000*l*. per annum, in sums not exceeding 200*l*., as aid towards the erection of district schools.

The number of private and unlicensed schools in the province has never been accurately ascertained, but the Education Board have expressed their belief that they form fully two fifths of the entire number of schools, and they thereupon estimate the total number of children receiving education in South Australia at 10,065, or a proportion of about 1 to 9 of the entire population.

Ecclesiastical.

The following is an abstract of the returns supplied by ministers of religion as statements of the average number of persons actually attending their respective ministrations, viz.:—

Church of England.	Church of Rome.	Lutheran Church.	Presbyterians.	Congregationalists, being Independents and Baptists	Wesleyans.	Other denominations of Dissenters.	Jews.
3,870	2,880	1,950	1,358	2,938	8,895	2,680	30

But the information voluntarily supplied on the census forms, at the request of the Government, gives, as the numbers of persons professing to hold those religious tenets respectively, the following:—

33,812	8,335	6,151	7,120	5,355	11,178	7,118	405

Land Sales and Surveys.

The area of land surveyed for sale in South Australia, and laid out in sections varying from a square mile of country land to a town allotment of a quarter of an acre during 1855, was 340,614$\frac{1}{2}$ acres. The area sold during the year was 171,610 acres, which was conveyed to purchasers by 1,603 grants, and realized prices averaging, for lands sold by auction, 1*l*. 9*s*. $10\frac{6}{10}d$. per acre; lands submitted to auction and afterwards privately sold, partly at the upset price and partly at the price bid, but not paid, 1*l*. 0*s*. $3\frac{2}{10}d$.

Appendix B. (Returns 1 to 4, being very voluminous, are not printed.)

For more detailed particulars, vide the Surveyor General's Report and returns, Nos. 1 to 4, accompanying.

Crown Lands.

Thirty-two additional fourteen years leases of runs were issued during 1855, under which the extent of waste land held is 1,357 square miles; that held under the 365 leases issued from 1st July 1851 to 1st July 1854, inclusive, being 18,900 square miles; making a total area leased of 20,257 square miles. But from that quantity must be deducted, as the area of land since resumed for sale, or for the creation of hundreds, 1,697$\frac{1}{4}$ square miles, leaving still let 18,559$\frac{3}{4}$ square miles, the actual rental received from which, in 1855, was 10,419*l*. 10*s*.

228 square miles of waste lands within the hundreds were let in 1855, under annual leases, at a rent of 20*s*. per square mile.

A sum of 1,074*l.* 18*s.* was received in 1855 for timber licences and depasturing certificates, issued by Government in respect of waste lands not within the limits of proclaimed District Councils.

Licences were taken out at the Echunga gold field during the whole twelve months of 1855; the maximum monthly issue having been 217 in January, and the minimum 28 in June.

Postal.

The post office business may be seen in the following table, which exhibits the number of letters and newspapers passing through it, distinguishing ship from inland, viz.:—

Number of Post Offices.	Letters.		Newspapers.		Totals.	
	Ship.	Inland.	Ship.	Inland.	Letters.	Newspapers.
87	273,778	405,509	328,766	466,275	676,287	795,041

The post office revenue was 7,841*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and the expenditure 15,032*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*

The following return was compiled for, and ordered to be printed by, the Legislative Council.

RETURN showing the Time occupied in the Transmission of the various English Contract Packet Mails to this Colony, and also to Melbourne, en route, since the cessation of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's Contract.

Name of Vessel.	Date of Departure from England.	Date of Arrival at			
		Melbourne, en route.	Days occupied.	Adelaide.	Days occupied.
James Baines	8 Dec. 1854	12 Feb. 1855	66	17 Feb. 1855	71
Lightning	5 January 1855	20 March 1855	74	24 March 1855	78
Boomerang	6 February 1855	11 May 1855	94	18 May 1855	101
Blue Jacket	5 March 1855	13 May 1855	69	21 May 1855	77
Marco Polo	5 April 1855	26 June 1855	82	30 June 1855	86
Oliver Lang	5 May 1855	31 July 1855	87	11 August 1855	98
Donald M'Kay	5 June 1855	26 August 1855	82	4 Sept. 1855	91
Champion of the Seas	5 July 1855	26 Sept. 1855	83	3 October 1855	90
Ben Nevis	20 June 1855	4 October 1855	106	14 October 1855	116
Shalimar	20 July 1855	16 October 1855	88	21 October 1855	93
James Baines	5 August 1855	23 October 1855	79	26 October 1856	82
Emma	21 August 1855	17 Nov. 1855	88	23 Nov. 1855	94
Lightning	5 Sept. 1855	25 Nov. 1855	81	1 Dec. 1855	87
Red Jacket	20 Sept. 1855	4 Dec. 1855	75	9 Dec. 1855	80
Schomberg	5 October 1855	Wrecked 26 Dec. 1855	84	6 January 1856	93
Sultana	21 October 1855	12 January 1856	83	19 January 1856	90
Ocean Chief	6 Nov. 1855	25 January 1856	80	1 Feb. 1856	87
Mermaid	20 Nov. 1855	10 Feb. 1856	82	15 Feb. 1856	87
Marco Polo	5 Dec. 1855	26 Feb. 1856	83	2 March 1856	88
Being an average of			82½ days		89 days.

Public Works.

The sum expended in 1855 through the department of the Colonial Architect, in public works, buildings, and improvements, amounted to 81,597*l.* 17*s.*; but the total outlay of the colony under that head, during the year, was 173,376*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.*

The last-mentioned sum, however, includes the following special payments:—To corporation of Adelaide, for streets, 7,014*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*,—to Central Road Board,

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for main roads and bridges, 58,400*l.*,—in aid of District Councils revenue, 11,810*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*

Progress of Public Improvements under the Management of Boards, &c.

Four *Municipal Corporations* had been constituted in South Australia prior to the close of 1855, viz.:—That of the city of Adelaide, the assessment amounting to 160,598*l.*; that of the townships of Kensington and Norwood, the assessment being 14,842*l.*, at a shilling rate; that of the township of Glenelg, and that of the township of Port Adelaide, which were not in active operation during 1855.

Thirty-four *District Councils* had also been proclaimed up to the same date, whose united revenue, inclusive of the Government aid, was in 1855, 24,636*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*

The *Central Board of Main Roads* had at their command in 1855,—

	£	s.	d.
An unexpended balance from the previous year of -	33,733	19	6
And payments by Government during the year to the extent of - - - - - -	58,400	0	0
	£92,133	19	6

The ways and means of the *Trinity Board of Port Adelaide* amounted to 21,595*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*

The *Harbour Improvement Trust* were furnished by Government with funds, in anticipation of the sale of bonds to the extent of 13,800*l.*

The Adelaide City and Port Railway had advanced nearly to completion in 1855 (having since been opened for traffic on the 21st April 1856).

In immediate connexion with this line, though not under the control of the Railway Board, was being constructed the Government Magnetic Telegraph (also since in operation).

The construction of the Adelaide and Gawler Town Railway was rapidly urged on during 1855, and the Commissioners very confidently anticipate the opening of the line as far as Salisbury (a distance of 16 miles), and also of the branch to the Dry Creek Labour Prison Stone Quarry, before the close of 1856.

This tramway is not managed by a Board, but by a Government department.

The revenue of the Port Elliot and Goolwa Tramway was, in the year 1855, including warehouse and wharfage dues, 1,267*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*, being at the rate of 25 per cent. increase upon the rate of traffic of the nine months during which it was in operation in 1854.

Working in connexion with this tramway is the River Murray Navigation Company's fleet of steamers and barges, which ply as high up the river as Albury, so long as the depth of water in the channel permits.

Legislation.

Of the thirty-two public and three private Acts passed in the Session which commenced on the 1st November 1855, and which was not terminated until the 19th June 1856, only three were reserved by the Governor for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure, viz., the Governor's Salary Act, No. 1; the New Constitution Act, No. 2; and the Amended Alien Act, No. 8.

Hereunder is a schedule of the titles, &c., of the Acts passed the Council, duplicate copies of which have been transmitted to Downing Street, accompanied by copies of the opinions given by the Advocate General on each for the Governor's guidance.

No. 1.—An Act to make further provision respecting the salary of the Governor of South Australia. [Reserved, December 26, 1855.]

No. 2.—An Act to establish a Constitution for South Australia, and to grant a Civil List to Her Majesty. [Reserved, January 4, 1856.]

No. 3.—An Act to amend the Law relating to Registering of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in the Province of South Australia. [Assented to, February 1, 1856.]

No. 4.—An Act to give a preferable lien on Wool, from season to season, make Mortgages of Sheep, Cattle, and Horses valid, without delivery to the Mortgagee. [Assented to, March 5, 1856.]

No. 5.—An Act to amend a certain Provision of the Act No. 11 of 1849, "To constitute a Municipal Corporation for the City of Adelaide." [Assented to, March 5, 1856.]

No. 6.—An Act to regulate the collection and distribution of Duties upon Goods intended for consumption in the Colonies of New South Wales and Victoria, carried by way of the River Murray. [Assented to, March 5, 1856.]

No. 7.—An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the conveyance and transfer of Real and Personal Property vested in Mortgagees and Trustees. [Assented to, April 2, 1856.]

No. 8.—An Act to amend the Laws relating to Aliens. [Reserved, March 20, 1856.]

No. 9.—An Act to give further Remedies to Creditors against Persons removing from one Australasian Colony to another. [Assented to, April 2, 1856]

No. 10.—An Act to provide for the Election of Members to serve in the Parliament of South Australia. [Assented to, April 2, 1856.]

No. 11.—An Act to enable any Commissioner of the Court of Insolvency, although not named in a fiat, to prosecute the same, and to exercise and carry into effect the powers and authorities thereof. [Assented to, April 16, 1856.]

No. 12.—An Act to amend an Ordinance, No. 13, 1851, for the declaring of Main Lines of Road in South Australia. [Assented to, May 26, 1856.]

No. 13.—An Act to make provision for establishing a Monthly Mail Communication between the Province of South Australia and Great Britain. [Assented to, May 26, 1856.]

No. 14.—An Act to alter and amend an Ordinance, intituled, "An Act to regulate the retail of Liquors and to preserve good order in licensed Public Houses." [Assented to, May 28, 1856.]

No. 15.—An Act to make provision for the more effectual protection of Railways and Electric Telegraphs. [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

No. 16.—An Act to establish and incorporate an institution to be called "The South Australian Institute." [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

No. 17.—An Act to provide for the Punishment, Custody, and Employment of Prisoners sentenced to hard labour and penal servitude. [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

No. 18.—An Act to amend the Laws relating to the Corporation of the City of Adelaide, and also to regulate the slaughtering of Sheep, Calves, Swine, and Goats in the said City, and to prevent certain Nuisances therein. [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

No. 19.—An Act for the further Appropriation of the Revenue for the Years one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four and one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, and for the General Appropriation of the Revenue for the Year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six. [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

No. 20.—An Act further to amend an Ordinance, No. 13 of 1851, for the declaring of Main Lines of Road in South Australia. [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

No. 21.—An Act to amend "An Act to make provision against the danger of Bush and other Fires." [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

No. 22.—An Act to declare the legal operation of Land Grants made to deceased persons. [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

No. 23.—An Act to amend the Law relating to the Registration of Land Grants, and to provide for the prepayment of Registration Fees chargeable thereon. [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

No. 24.—An Act for the further amendment of the Process, Practice, and Mode of Pleading of the Supreme Court. [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

No. 25.—An Act to provide for the Registration of Joint Stock Companies, and for Limiting the Liability of Members thereof. [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

No. 26.—An Act to amend the "Lands Clauses Consolidation Act." [Assented to, June 19, 1856.]

No. 27.—An Act to authorize the Appointment of South Australian Railway Commissioners, and to vest in them the construction of the Adelaide City and Port Railway, and of the Adelaide and Gawler Town Railway, and to authorize the raising of a further sum of Thirty-six thousand Pounds for the completion of the Adelaide City and Port Railway. [Assented to, June 19, 1856.]

No. 28.—An Act to provide for the Water Supply and Drainage of the City of Adelaide. [Assented to, June 19, 1856.]

No. 29.—An Act for the further amendment of "An Act to prevent the extension of the Scab in Sheep, and to make provision for the destruction of Sheep infected with that disorder." [Assented to, June 19, 1856.]

No. 30.—An Act to facilitate actions against Persons absent from the Colony, and against Persons sued as Joint Contractors. [Assented to, June 19, 1856.]

No. 31.—An Act to consolidate the several Ordinances relating to the Establishment of the Supreme Court of the Province of South Australia. [Assented to, June 19, 1856.]

No. 32.—An Act to make further provisions for the Election of Members to serve in the Parliament of South Australia. [Assented to, June 19, 1856.]

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Private Acts.

An Act to secure to James Hadden Young, for the residue of a term of fourteen years, the exclusive right to use, within the Province of South Australia, certain improvements in the construction of Railways. [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

An Act to enable John Finnis, George Stevenson, Charles Mann, and Ludavina Cameron Kingston, Hester Holland Kingston, Charlotte Julia Kingston, Strickland Gough Kingston, and Charles Cameron Kingston (the Five Infant Children of George Strickland Kingston, of Adelaide, in the Province of South Australia, Esquire, by his late Wife Ludavina Catharina da Silva Cameron Kingston, deceased), to convey to Allen Bell, in fee simple, the Section of Land, numbered 4,448 in the Special Survey in the said Province called the Mount Barker Special Survey, and to declare the Trusts of the purchase money for the same land. [Assented to, June 18, 1856.]

An Act to define and extend the powers of the Trustees under the Will of Michael Featherstone, deceased, and to provide for the better management of the Testator's Estate. [Assented to, June 19, 1856.]

Immigration.

Appendix C.

Annexed is the Annual Report by the Immigration Agent, whereby it appears that the total number of immigrants landed in the colony during the years 1853-4-5 respectively, were—

In 1853, 14 vessels brought	-	-	4,583 souls.
„ 1854, 30 „ „	-	-	8,824 „
„ 1855, 39 „ „	-	-	11,871 „

Very detailed information on the subject will be found in the Report.

EDW. WM. HITCHIN,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

August 23, 1856.

(Appendix A, being very voluminous, is not printed.)

Appendix B.

Survey.—South Australia.

General Report accompanying the Returns for the year 1855.

Surveyor-General's Office, Adelaide, April 10, 1856.

Land Department.

Sir,

I have the honour to report, that during the year 1855 the department sold 171,610a., 1r. 29p., showing a decrease compared with the year 1854 of 42,314a. 2r. 20p.

Progress of Fieldwork.

A slight increase in the number of field parties took place during the year, which enabled me to survey 390,915 acres, of which 340,614½ were new surveys laid out for sale in sections (varying in size from the maximum of 640 acres to town allotments of ¼ acre), 11,273¾ are new roads, 36,255¾ are resurveys of old sections, 910½ are old roads, and 1,860½ are reserves for water, stone, and other purposes.

Expenses of Fieldwork.

The actual cost of the above, with every expense contingent thereupon, such as the salaries of temporary surveyors, regimental and working pay, gratuity and allowances of the detachment of Royal Sappers and Miners, wages of bullock-drivers and labourers, maintenance and repair of camp equipage, surveying instruments, transports, and supplying casualties in the field, is 12,776*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*, which amount includes the expense of valuation of improvements on leased lands resumed, which duty has been transferred to this office from that of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, making the cost of the fieldwork $7\frac{84}{100}d.$, being $\frac{84}{100}$ in excess of that of last year. The above expenditure is 3,610*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* more than the previous year 1854.

Expense of Survey Department.

The whole expense for this department for the year is 16,891*l.* 15*s.* 0*d.* showing that the cost of superintendence, field-work, mapping, compilation of weekly land sales lists, monthly and quarterly returns of lands sold at public auction and by private contract, the

preparation of 1,467 land grants, attendance on the public for elucidation of plans and for general information concerning the survey and sale of lands, is $10\frac{37}{100}d.$ per acre, or $\frac{47}{100}$ of a penny in excess of the total average per acre for 1854, whilst 76,966 acres were surveyed in 1855 in excess of that surveyed during the preceding year. In this total sum is included the half salary of the late Deputy Surveyor General in England whilst on leave of absence.

Hundreds and Counties.

No additional hundreds or counties have been proclaimed during the year.

New Townships.

A township to be called Blanche Town, consisting of 126 allotments, nearly all $\frac{1}{2}$ acre blocks, has been laid out; this township is at the point where the Adelaide and Moorunde road first meets the river Murray.

Survey of Roads.

During this year roads were laid out through three special surveys, viz., the "Burra," "Princess Royal," and the "Mount Barker," the lands of which were granted with a right of resumption by the Crown to enter upon and possess the several roads and reserves conceived to be necessary for public utility and convenience.

The commencement of the survey of a main line of road from Port Elliot to Yankalilla, from Strachalbyn to Mitang, and some roads in the North, and a main line from Gawler Town northerly towards Port Wakefield.

Visits of Inspection.

The usual visits of inspection to the field survey parties have been made by myself and the first assistant to Surveyor General.

Sale by Public Auction and Private Contract.

There were sold in 1855, by public auction, 124,564A. 1R. 29P. at an average of 1*l.* 9*s.* $10\frac{6}{10}d.$ per acre, or 186,077*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*; by private contract, 47,046 acres at an average of 1*l.* 0*s.* $3\frac{2}{10}d.$ or 47,667*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.*, making a total of 233,745*l.* 1*s.* 0*d.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. H. FREELING,
Capt. R.E.,
Surveyor General.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX C.

REPORT from IMMIGRATION AGENT, on ASSISTED IMMIGRATION during 1855, with STATISTICAL RETURNS.

SIR, Immigration Office, Port Adelaide, February 18, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, Statistical Returns of Assisted Immigration for the year 1855, consisting of ten tables, successively marked A. to K.*

Comparing the first of these returns, marked A., with the corresponding returns for the two previous years, his Excellency will perceive that greatly increased assisted immigration has taken place.

The Government immigrants landed alive in the colony during these three years were:—

In 1853, in 14 ships	4,583
1854 „ 30 „	8,824
1855 „ 39 „	11,871

The average number of deaths, expressed by decimals, in ships chartered by the Commissioners, were:—

In 1853	·04102
1854	·02583
1855	·01162

During these three years the average number of deaths of children under seven years of age to the whole numbers of deaths were:—

In 1853	·74468
1854	·77192
1855	·73913

* These returns, being very voluminous, are not printed.

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The average proportion of children under seven years to the whole numbers embarked and who were born during the voyage was:—

In 1853	·23459
1854	·17288
1855	·13556

The average proportion of deaths of children under seven to the number of that age who were embarked, and were born on the voyage, was:—

In 1853	·12511
1854	·11246
1855	·06265

The average number of infants embarked and born, when compared with the total souls embarked, were as follows:—

In 1853	·06439
1854	·05086
1855	·03924

The proportion of deaths of infants to the number of infants embarked and who were born at sea was:—

In 1853	·19333
1854	·17477
1855	·10967

By these calculations it is shown:—

1st. That the average mortality during the three years has diminished year by year.

2nd. That the average number of deaths of children under seven years to the deaths at all ages is very great, varying in the three years only from ·77192 to ·73913.

3rd. That the proportion of children under seven years to the total souls embarked has been gradually decreased from ·23459 to ·13556.

4th. That the proportion of deaths of children under seven to the number of that age embarked has decreased from ·12511 to ·06265.

5th. That the proportion of infants to the gross numbers embarked has, during the three years, diminished from ·06439 to ·03924.

6th. That the proportion of deaths of infants has decreased from ·19333 to ·10967.

Several causes may be supposed to have had an effect on the mortality, but I have reason to speak strongly of the anxiety which the Commissioners have evinced to adopt all reasonable suggestions for the improvement of the management or dietary of emigrant ships, and the great majority of those to whom the care of the emigrants was entrusted during the past year, either as surgeons or ship's officers, have faithfully and zealously and kindly watched over the emigrants entrusted to their care. To the diligent performance of the duty of these gentlemen, and to the improved dietary for young children lately introduced, I attribute the decreased mortality, more than to any alterations in the relative numbers of those embarked at different ages.

The average contract price during the year for the passage of each statute adult was 16*l.* 8*s.* being less than either of the two previous years.

The average number of days taken by ships to complete the voyage was:—

In 1850	105 days.
1851	106 „
1852	101 „
1853	105 „
1854	100 „
1855	98 „

Table marked B. shows the counties from which the emigrants have been selected.

In England, the counties from which the largest number of emigrants have been selected were Middlesex, Cornwall, Devonshire, and Somerset; then Surrey, Kent, and Lancashire.

In Scotland, the emigrants were chiefly selected from Inverness, Lanark, and Renfrew.

Clare, Tipperary, Cork, Kilkenny, Tyrone, Limerick, and Dublin have supplied us with the largest proportion of the Irish.

In Return C. the occupations of the immigrants, as stated in the official returns to the Commissioners, are given.

I regret to say that no dependence whatever can be placed on the return of the occupations of the single women; it is exceedingly incorrect.

Return D. gives the proportion of the immigrants at the different ages, distinguishing the sexes.

It appears that there was a gross majority of 2,933 females during the year.

However desirable it may be that the sexes should be equalized as much as possible in every colony, I may remark that, according to the last census, the disparity of the sexes is very trifling, the excess of males over females between the ages of fourteen and forty-five being only 1,153.

But, even supposing the disparity to be much greater than what it really is, surely, in trying to restore the equilibrium, some other considerations ought to be taken into account than the mere difference of sex.

Females sent to a colony such as this ought to have some such qualifications as would suit them to become the wives of young, active, industrious men; they ought to be cleanly in their habits and persons, and instructed in such household duties and have such education as would enable them to make their husbands' homes clean, comfortable, and orderly; but, on the contrary, the young women who have arrived here have been generally most ignorant of all household duties or household management, incongruous in habits, education, and religious faith to the colonists at large.

I would be most unwilling to say anything to injure those who have already arrived, for I believe that, so far as morality and general propriety of conduct and kind-heartedness is concerned, they would bear a comparison with any like number that could be selected from any country in the world, or from any class of society. This is all well, but something more is wanted.

Return E. gives a tabular view of the different religious persuasions of the emigrants by each ship during the year, distinguishing males and females.

The proportions belonging to each denomination are as follows:—

Church of England	·42212
Roman Catholics	·36787
Church of Scotland	·05719
Free Church of Scotland	·02729
Wesleyan Methodists	·05837
Other Protestants	·06705
Jews	·00008

The proportion of males and females of each denomination seem to bear a close approximation in all save the Roman Catholics, of whom the proportion of females was ·73666, while that of males was ·26334.

Return F. shows the state of education of the immigrants by each ship, distinguishing the ages of the people. Regarding this return, it may be said that the great majority of those who can read only are persons who though they can possibly read individual words, can make little or no sense of continuous sentences; so that, as far as the object of being able to read is concerned, it is in such persons not attained.

The proportion of such as could read and write to the whole number of immigrants was:—

In 1853	·44555
1854	·49422
1855	·47561

The proportion of all the immigrants above fourteen years of age who could read and write was:—

In 1853	·60365
1854	·61480
1855	·55845

Return G. is a form suggested by his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, to show at one view a classified return of all immigrants, adults, and children, married and single, males and females, and the countries from which they were selected. By this we see that the proportions are:—

From England	·47729
Ireland	·43079
Scotland	·09190

By the same return we find that 4,049 single women arrived. Of these the proportions were:—

From England	·21091
Ireland	·73524
Scotland	·05384

From this we see that the immigration of young women from Ireland has more than doubled the gross number from England and Scotland together.

Return H. contains a classified table giving particulars regarding only the single women who arrived during the year.

By this table we find that of the 4,049 single women who have arrived, of fourteen years and upwards, the numbers who could read and write were 1,839, being in the decimal proportion ·45418.

The proportions, according to religious persuasions, were:—

Roman Catholics	·62731
Church of England	·26549
Church of Scotland	·03210
Free Church of Scotland	·02074
Wesleyan Methodists	·02025
Other Protestants	·03383

At present there are two modes adopted, by either of which persons may nominate and assist the passages of emigrants to South Australia. The regulations were published in the Government Gazette of March 22, 1855.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

To acquire the right of nomination in virtue of purchase of land, payments are required of certain small sums:—For married agricultural labourers, shepherds, herdsmen, miners, and their wives, and the wives of persons now in the colony, if under forty-five years, 1*l.*; married journeymen, mechanics, and artisans, 2*l.*; single men, 2*l.*; children under fourteen years, 10*s.*

The nomination without the purchase of land requires the payment of larger sums:—Agricultural labourers, shepherds, miners, female domestic and farm servants, and their families, 4*l.* per statute adult, if under forty-five years; other immigrants and their families, 8*l.*; wives or children of emigrants now in the colony, 4*l.* per statute adult.

The regulations in virtue of purchase of land were framed with the view of enabling the purchasers of land to nominate their own labourers.

The regulations without purchase of land were framed to enable colonists, by the payment of a moderate sum, to nominate friends or relatives in Britain, the payments being made such as to afford a sufficient guarantee that the persons so nominated would be really desirable colonists, it being supposed that when individuals here were willing to advance 4*l.* for each adult, that it would be a better certificate of character than any which could be procured by the Commissioners at home.

But the right of nomination, in virtue of the purchase of land, has not been used for the purposes originally intended, but has become a matter of traffic in the market, so that land agents and others sell the right of nomination for small sums, which enables persons to nominate for free passages their friends or relatives at home who are in destitute circumstances, knowing well, from experience, that there is a certainty here of the nominees being supported by Government if they should fail to procure employment.

I do not consider that the small payment of twenty or thirty shillings is sufficient; and the Commissioners at home are, I doubt not, unwilling to throw any obstacles in the way of those who are nominated.

The number of those nominated during the year 1855 in virtue of purchase of land was 1,786, while the number nominated without the purchase of land was only twenty.

The right of nomination without the purchase of land has virtually become a dead letter, and the facility of obtaining, by the payment of a few shillings, a nomination under a land order, has been adopted, without any reference to the object for which that regulation was originally made.

The return marked I. is a classified table of those who arrived in the year 1855, in virtue of the purchase of land. By this return, we find that the total number which arrived was 1387; the proportions from the three Kingdoms, expressed in decimals, were:—

From England	·45205
Ireland	·50901
Scotland	·03893

There were 315 single women, of those the proportions were:—

From England	·25714
Ireland	·72698
Scotland	·01587

There were 289 single men; these were in the following proportions:—

From England	·21453
Ireland	·75432
Scotland	·03114

Of the married men, the proportions were:—

From England	·63829
Ireland	·30851
Scotland	·05319

With regard to education, the proportion of those who could read and write, of fourteen years old and upwards, was ·51177.

Of the whole number who were nominated, the relative proportions belonging to the different religious denominations were:—

Church of England	·40591
Rome	·49531
Scotland	·01081
Free Church of Scotland	·01658
Wesleyan Methodists	·04542
Other Protestants	·02595

Return K. gives a nominal list of the single women nominated in virtue of purchase of land, by each ship, and the period during which they remained in the Female Immigrant Depôt.

From these returns I infer that the system of nomination in virtue of purchase of land does not act for the good of the colony.

If this right of nomination under land purchase were abolished, and the regulations for nomination without purchase of land were retained, with slightly reduced scales of payment, I have every reason to believe that the consequences would be beneficial.

This change would assimilate the system adopted here to the bounty system of Tasmania, which has been found practically to act well.

The payment of 3*l.* for the nomination of each statute adult under forty-five years of age appears to be sufficient to afford a guarantee that the persons nominated would be desirable as colonists. Nevertheless, I think that there ought to be a regulation, that the wives and children of those now in the colony may be nominated by the husband or parent for immediate passage to the colony on the payment of the smallest sum required as deposit by the Commissioners at home.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. Duncan, M.D.,
Immigration Agent.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 40.

No. 40.

Copies of DESPATCHES from Governor Kennedy to the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere.

(No. 58.)

Government House, Perth,
June 13, 1856.
Received September 5, 1856.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith the Duplicate Blue Book for 1855, which I trust will be found to have been accurately and carefully compiled.

Having administered the government of this colony for a part of the year only, I propose to confine my remarks to those subjects more immediately requiring explanation, and in the order in which I find them in the tabular statement.

Taxes and Duties.

There has not been any change in the taxes and duties during the year. There is no direct taxation of any kind.

Revenue.

The comparative statement at page 30 shows a small increase in the fixed revenue, the receipts in 1855 being 33,782*l.*, against 33,593*l.* in 1854.

The incidental revenue, parliamentary grant, &c. being included, increases the total revenue for 1855 to 48,639*l.*, against 45,775*l.* in 1854. In these sums are included temporary loans from the Western Australian Bank of 1,832*l.* in 1854, and 5,110*l.* in 1855. The loans have been explained and remarked upon in my despatches during the year.

Expenditure.

The expenditure in 1855 amounted to 49,240*l.*, against 45,171*l.* in 1854.

Public Debt.

The public debt of the colony amounts to 12,939*l.*, the items and explanation of which are fully detailed at page 44.

Legislation.

The titles of the ordinances passed during the year are sufficiently indicative of their object, and do not call for any special remark.

Imports and Exports.

The imports in 1855 amounted to 105,320*l.*, against 128,260*l.* in 1854, while the exports in 1855 were in excess of those in 1854 by a sum of 10,069*l.*, the value of the exports for the two years respectively being 46,314*l.* and 36,245*l.*; a state of facts highly indicative of a sounder trade, and the prosperity of the colony, the more so when it is considered that there has been no appreciable increase to the population.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

The articles of export on which there is the principal increase are:—

	£
Horses	1,630
Lead and lead ore	1,750
Oil	1,060
Copper ore	26
Timber	4,300
Wool	4,800
	13,556

I attach no importance to the decrease of imports in 1855 as compared with 1854. A change in the law affecting dutiable goods took place in 1854, which induced merchants and traders to take a larger quantity out of bond than was actually required for consumption, in the anticipation of increased duties.

The introduction of convicts encouraged over importing, which only found its level in 1855; and those articles of import upon which there was an increase in 1855, viz., tea, coffee, sugar, tools, implements, &c., all indicate general prosperity.

An analysis of the imports of 1855 as compared with the previous year affords a most satisfactory result in many particulars. There has been a decrease of at least 10,000*l.* in the importation of articles under the head of agricultural and farming produce, replaced by home produce; and the extended cultivation during the current year affords every hope that the increased production in breadstuffs, cattle, pigs, &c. will reduce the imports by a sum of 10,000*l.* more, making a difference of 20,000*l.* in favour of the colony as compared with 1853–4.

Agriculture and Land Sales.

The agricultural interest throughout the colony is in a thriving condition, and a supply of food equal to the requirements of the colony has been for the first time produced since its formation.

The land sales in 1855 realized 3,925*l.*, against 2,758*l.* in 1854. The land revenue in 1855 amounted to 3,262*l.*, against 2,994*l.* in 1854. These figures, however satisfactory, do not in my opinion indicate the full extent of the improved condition of the agricultural interest. The reverses, losses, and liabilities incurred prior to the existence of the market created by the introduction of convicts have been to a great extent retrieved and liquidated during the last two years, and the agriculturist enabled to buy for cash what was heretofore obtained on credit. The ultimate benefit arising from this altered state of things to both buyer and seller cannot be doubted.

The extent of land brought under cultivation in 1855 has exceeded that of 1854 by at least 3,000 acres, and the sale of lands is still on the increase.

I think the land regulations, as laid down by Order in Council dated 22d March 1850, open to many objections, and calculated to retard the advancement of the colony.

Horticulture is rapidly on the increase, especially in the neighbourhood of Perth, and is highly remunerative. Fruit and vegetables are produced which cannot be excelled in any part of the world. Vineyards and the manufacture of wine are also on the increase, and some of the latter is of a very excellent quality.

Aborigines.

The natives of Western Australia are, I think, the least hopeful savages I have seen in any part of the world. All the philanthropic efforts, whether public or private, which have been made in their behalf, have resulted in absolute failure, and I believe that attempting to civilize (which involves housing them) entails certain death. They live upon terms of wonderful amity with the settlers, and are useful in a variety of occupations. They are rapidly decreasing in numbers, and will shortly altogether disappear from some districts. The absence of births is, I learn, most remarkable; and the mortality from influenza and complaints of the lungs very great; neither have they escaped the white man's vices of drunkenness and immorality, with their attendant penalties, still further increasing the mortality.

The island of Rottnest has been re-converted to its former purpose as a place of punishment for such of these scarcely responsible creatures as offend against the laws. They are employed in useful agricultural pursuits, and under little

restraint as compared with that which was necessary to prevent their escape on the mainland.

General Remarks.

The colony of Western Australia differs from all others in two important particulars,—the character of its population and the absence of free emigration, —to which another peculiarity may be added, that of its population being nearly stationary, and in my opinion likely to continue so for some years, unless other inducements than those at present existing to tempt immigrants present themselves.

It is lightly taxed, and its present revenue is, in my opinion, if properly administered, and the existing debt once liquidated, quite equal to its requirements.

There is no part of the world where industry and perseverance will be more certainly rewarded in any walk of life. A large proportion of the property of the colony is owned by men of humble origin and pretensions, and who now enjoy the fruit of their labour with as much honour and independence as they earned it.

I have travelled over a sufficient extent of the colony to enable me to form some estimate of its present resources and present prospects, and I think they are both highly encouraging. The occupied lands, though apparently of by no means first-class quality, aided by one of the finest climates in the world, are exceedingly fertile. I doubt whether a larger yield of cereal crop or potatoes per acre can be raised by the same degree of cultivation in any part of the world. The variety and luxuriance of its fruits, especially grapes, is, I believe, unrivalled. The whale fishery on its coasts, together with the rich mines of lead and copper ore in the northern districts, must ere long attract capital, and give an important impetus to the prosperity of the colony. Its timber, in the opinion of competent judges, is of most superior and durable quality.

The introduction of convicts, which insures a supply of cheap labour, and also a market for agricultural produce, will, I have no doubt, secure the colony against competition with other parts of the world, while the necessaries of life will continue to be obtainable at a reasonable rate.

The statistics of crime in the colony will bear favourable comparison with most parts of Her Majesty's dominions. It is a most gratifying fact that a large proportion of those exiled from the mother country have been restored to society and a career of honest industry; a result which, though reflecting the highest credit upon the Comptroller General and officers under him, is also largely attributable to the frank and cordial hand of fellowship which the colonists have ever extended to those who have proved themselves worthy of it. This extension of forbearance and kindly feeling has in no way affected the general moral tone of society, which is equal to that of any of the colonies, and exceeded by none.

The comparative state of crime for the last two years is as follows:

	1854.	1855.
Murders - - -	5	6
Other felonies - -	8	24
Misdemeanors - - -	24	26 (Larcenies).
Criminals executed - -	1	7

Of this latter number, three were natives, one a prisoner from the convict establishment, two were ticket-of-leave holders, and one a free woman. A large proportion of the murders in 1854-5 were committed by natives on their fellow countrymen, in carrying out their custom of killing a member of another tribe for every one who dies a natural death in their own. These returns do not of course comprise magisterial convictions. These figures afford little ground for the prejudice which has been raised by an injudicious and ungenerous portion of the public press against the migration of a few conditional-pardon men from this colony, who have by industry and good conduct realized the means of commencing life anew in another colony than that where they expiated their original offence.

Twenty-three American whalers have touched or been fishing on the coast during the year, and not one English. The colonial whale boats have realized above 5,000*l.* worth of oil and bone during the year.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

The pensioner force under Lieutenant-Colonel Bruce forms an important element in the population of this colony, and is calculated to exercise a lasting influence on the popular character of the colonists. I enclose a copy of Colonel Bruce's Annual Report to the Secretary-at-War, which contains a most accurate and truthful statement of all connected with the force. I can only add my testimony to the usefulness, prosperity, and good conduct of the men, mainly attributable to the judicious management and unremitting attention of Colonel Bruce, and Captain Foss, his second in command.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY, Governor.

Encl. 1. in No. 40.

Enclosure 1. in No. 40.

SIR, Perth, 28th April 1856.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following particulars respecting the state and prospects of the pensioners in this colony up to the termination of the twelve months ending 31st ultimo.

As a body I am of opinion that the pensioners have done quite as well as any men of their position in life in this colony, although a few ill-conducted individuals have stood out prominently as persons in distress.

I subjoin a statement of occupations and earnings.

In LIEUT-COLONEL BRUCE'S District.

Saddler, earning about 5*s.* a day	1
Employed as farm labourers, at from 18*l.* to 24*l.* per annum, and rations	19
As domestic servants, man and wife, at from 30*l.* to 40*l.* per annum and board	2
Warders in convict establishment, at 50*l.* and 65*l.* per annum, rations and quarters	28
Police serjeant, at 100*l.* and quarters	1
Private of police, at 80*l.* per annum and quarters	5
On military duty at North Fremantle	11
„ with Fremantle detachment	15
„ at Freshwater Bay	10
„ at York	8
„ at Toodyay	5
„ at Albany	6
„ at Kojonup	5
„ at Port Gregory	6
„ at Champion Bay	4
„ at Rottnest Island	4
Staff serjeant at head quarters	1
Clerk to a mercantile firm, at 30*s.* a week	1
Commissariat messenger, at 45*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per annum, and a free ration	1
Shoemaker, earning upwards of 5*s.* a day, constant	1
In employment of Colonial Government, at from 36*l.* to 54*l.* per annum	3
Tailor, when employed, at 4*s.* per diem	1
Labourer, at 30*s.* per week, constant	1
Ditto, at 3*s.* 6*d.* per diem	14
Commissariat labourer, at 50*l.* per annum, and a free ration	1
Labourers, at 3*s.* 6*d.* per diem, not in constant work	5
Idle and improvident habits, living on wife's earnings	1
In military villages not returned on military duty	13
Left the colony without leave, names still borne on pay list	4
Dismissed enrolled force	4
Total now or have been enrolled	181

Pensioners discharged, or admitted to the pension list in this colony.

Superintendent of native prisoners at Rottnest Island, at 150*l.* per annum	1
Barrack serjeant, at 3*s.* 6*d.* per diem, and free ration	1
Shoemaker, in fair employment	1
Steward to a property, and well remunerated	1
Farm labourer, at 25*l.* per annum, and rations	1
Mail carrier, at 70*l.* per annum	1
Drunken and improvident	1
Living by their labour, earning from 3*s.* to 4*s.* a day	9
Total in Lieut.-Colonel Bruce's district	197

Carried forward - - -	197

In Captain Foss's District.

On military duty - - - - - -	83
Warder in convict establishment, at 54*l.* per annum, rations and quarters - - - - - - - -	4
Commissariat labourer, at 55*l.* per annum, and free ration - -	1
Labourer, at 3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* per diem - - - -	20
Shoemakers, earning upwards of 5*s.* a day, constant - - -	2
Carpenters, earning upwards of 5*s.* a day, constant - - -	2
Tailors, in fair employment - - - -	2
Moulder, not constantly employed - - - - -	1
Servants, from 30*l.* to 40*l.* per annum - - -	2
Butcher, in fair employment - - - - -	1
Farm servants, at 25*l.* per annum, rations and quarters - -	5
Not able to work, being blind, but supported by wife's labour -	1
Drunken and improvident - - - - -	6
Left the colony without leave, but names still on pay list - -	20
Struck off the enrolled force for misconduct - - - -	3
Have never been enrolled in this colony - - - - -	
Warder, at 80*l.* per annum, rations and quarters - - -	1
Engaged in trade - - - - - - - -	1
	352
Deduct :—	
Left the colony without leave, but names still borne on the pay lists -	24
Total pensioners throughout the colony	328

of whom 303 are actually enrolled.

The enrolled pensioners located in military villages are at present as follows:—

North Fremantle 24, of whom 19 are in cottages.

During the past year the great body of the convicts having been employed in the completion of their own prison, only one additional cottage has been made available for pensioners in this village.

I am happy to add that the great majority of the men and their families are thriving, some of them having as many as from five to ten cows, for the milk of which a ready sale is obtained in Fremantle at 6*d.* per quart. In short, sloth or improvidence is the only bar to prosperity there, and but a few individuals exhibit indications of such failings.

The men are employed from time to time on military duty as vacancies occur, an advantage which has enabled some of the most thrifty of them to make great advances in settling themselves.

Freshwater Bay. 12 pensioners still occupy this village, and during the past year several of them have made considerable progress in clearing their land. It is however still and is likely to continue one of the least promising locations.

At York 13 pensioners occupy neat cottages, each standing upon a four-acre allotment of excellent wheat land. In my last report the number of cottages was eight, consequently five have been erected during the past year, which was done by convict labour.

At Toodyay 11 pensioners are located in cottages and upon allotments similar to those at York, being an increase of five since last report.

In October last I accompanied Governor Kennedy to York and Toodyay, on which occasion his Excellency expressed himself highly gratified with the neatness, comfort, and general appearance of prosperity observable in the pensioner villages in those districts.

The village of Bunbury, consisting of 9 cottages, still maintains its character for neatness and respectability, as well as for the industry of its inhabitants.

Priv. Patrick Brennan, from 6th Foot, at 1*s.*

The cottage formerly occupied by the pensioner named in the margin, whose death I alluded to in my last report, has been, under the authority of the Governor, handed over to another pensioner, and the Widow Brennan given a grant of six acres of arable land in lieu, together with 15*l.* in aid of erecting a house, besides the value of her late husband's improvements.

At Port Gregory the pensioners are still in the unsatisfactory state as regards habitations which I reported last year.

His Excellency Governor Kennedy has expressed great anxiety respecting these men, and will, I am sure, either improve their condition there, or withdraw them altogether. In no locality have circumstances been less propitious to establishing pensioners. Upon being satisfied by personal observation that the men could never obtain a living off the land allotted to them, I recommended that a new site should be chosen. This was done ; but the pensioners, after approving in the first instance of the new locality, ultimately pronounced it as ill adapted as the old one. Matters have therefore been left in statu quo for the present, as the Governor will probably visit the district ere long.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

At Champion Bay there are still 4 pensioners occupying barracks, as stated in my last report.

There is reason to believe that a valuable copper mine has been discovered between Port Gregory and Champion Bay; and should hope not prove fallacious in this respect, the point for locating pensioners in this district may be changed by the discovery. 30 tons of copper ore have already been brought down, one piece of which weighs 200lbs.

At Albany, the pensioners, in common with all the labouring classes at that place, have suffered materially by the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamers having been taken off the Australian line. Of the five pensioners mentioned in my last report as having located themselves with the aid of the 15*l.* allowed by Government, one has left his cottage and allotment, and gone into the interior, and another has applied to me for a transfer to Adelaide, which I have refused to grant till he conforms to the provisions of the War Office circular, No. 1064, of the 3d June 1850.

Three pensioners are located in temporary dwellings in rear of Perth, where 21 allotments have been laid out. I have not encouraged men settling upon this land until it is cleared by convict labour, which the governor intends to have done as soon as the strength of the depôt in the neighbourhood admits of hands being so employed.

At Kojonup I have nothing new to report, excepting that another pensioner has during the past year located himself there, with the aid of the 15*l.* allowed by Government, thus making four pensioners cottages which now exist at this isolated place.

The benevolent fund, the establishment of which was mentioned in my last report, has progressed most favourably, as will have been seen by the abstract of accounts transmitted with my letter, No. $\frac{7}{31\frac{2}{5}}$, 29 February 1856.

During the past year there have been 21 transfers from the colony, namely:

2 to London.
1 to Cape of Good Hope.
1 to India.
2 to Melbourne.
7 to Adelaide.
2 to Sydney.
6 to Van Dieman's Land.

Of the above 5 were single men.

During the period embraced in this report 5 enrolled pensioners have died, 4 have been struck off the enrolled force for misconduct, and 3 of those dismissed in former years have been readmitted upon the grounds of reformation.

3.

Western Australia.

66.
12th October 1855.

In accordance with the War Office letter noted in the margin, I annex a return showing what has been the conduct of those who have been restored to the force during the last 3 years.

During the past year, as mentioned in my last report, I was induced, by a desire to benefit the pensioners to the utmost of my ability, to enter into a contract, as in the previous year, for a large supply of flour. By this arrangement the pensioners, to the extent of the supply thus secured, namely 20 tons, eat their flour at about 3¾*d.* per pound, including 3*s.* put upon each bag of 200lbs. for the benefit of the benevolent fund; whereas the retail market price ranged during the year at from 4½*d.* to 5½*d.* per pound.

The correspondence transmitted with the War Office letter noted in the margin sanctioned the assistance of the commissariat department being afforded in this respect; but finding that the cost price, namely, 4¼*d.* per pound, for issues of flour from the commissariat magazines, was much higher than I could make arrangements for, I resolved upon again entering into a contract with a respectable settler, taking care, however, that he, as contractor, should bear the risk of transit, and that I should only be responsible that the quantity contracted for was taken and paid for in a given time. By this arrangement I have secured 20 tons of flour at 3*d.* per pound; and as 2*s.* 6*d.* is added to each bag of 200lbs. for the benefit of the benevolent fund, the pensioners will this year have flour to the extent of the supply contracted for at about 3⅜*d.* per pound.

In conclusion, I have the pleasure to observe, that, as a body, the enrolled pensioners, whether regarded as soldiers or settlers, continue to merit the character of an efficient and respectable class, in which all that is praiseworthy and useful very much preponderates over what is objectionable. There are black sheep in every flock, and therefore it cannot be expected that a force of upwards of three hundred men could be altogether exempt from slothful, intemperate, or improvident characters. To encourage and advance the interests of the meritorious many is still my pleasurable aim; as, on the other hand, it is my disagreeable duty to discountenance and repress the disorderly few, the latter measure being sometimes rendered the more painful by the defaulters involving in the consequences of their misconduct their wives and children.

I have, &c.
J. Bruce, Lieut. Colonel, Staff Officer.

Enclosure 2. in No. 40.

RETURN of PENSIONERS who have been restored to the ENROLLED FORCE during the last Three Years, and showing their Conduct since re-admission. Perth, W. A., 1st April 1856.

Regiment from which pensioned.	Rate of Pension.	Rank and Name.	Offences for which dismissed.	Date of dismissal.	Date of restoration.	Conduct since restoration.
7th Foot -	11½*d.*	Corp. James Parke	Insulting language to ticket-of-leave men, and insubordination to Lt.-Col. Bruce.	29 Oct. 1851.	1 Apr. 1853.	Quiet and orderly. Has been occasionally employed on military duty; and when off has supported himself and family by his trade of shoemaker.
54th Foot	7*d.*	Private John Burtonshaw.	Habitual drunkenness.	6 Nov. 1852.	1 Oct. 1855.	Prior to dismissal from the enrolled force, this man and his wife appeared continually at the police office for drunkenness in the streets. Since his restoration neither of them have been brought to notice for irregularity, and I have reason to believe his habits to be now steady.
59th Foot	6*d.*	Private John Baldwin.	Drunk upon duty under arms.	10 Aug. 1854.	1 May 1855.	Has not been brought to notice for any offence since restoration, and has been on military duty.
88th Foot	1*s.*	Private George Swift.	Insubordination -	20 Jan. 1854.	1 Jan. 1855.	Has been steady and industrious.
E. I. C. -	9*d.*	Serjeant William Nugent.	Habitual drunkenness and insubordination.	Sept. 1852.	1 July 1855.	Has worked industriously at his trade of blacksmith, and has not been brought to notice for any offence since restoration.

N.B.—There has been but one instance, since the introduction of enrolled pensioners into this colony, of a restored man having merited second expulsion from the force, namely, the case of Peter Lowers, from the Royal Marines, at 6*l.* per annum, who was struck off in April 1852, restored in October 1852, and dismissed a second time in October 1853.

J. BRUCE, Lieut.-Colonel, Staff Officer.

No. 41.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor KENNEDY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 122.)

Government House, Perth, November 28, 1856.

SIR, (Received February 16, 1857.)

STATEMENTS having been put before the public and circulated, which if true would lead to the belief that this colony was retrograding and in a languishing condition, I deem it my duty to place the result of my own observations during a recent tour before you.

I lately proceeded from Perth, and was present at the York and Toodyay agricultural meetings, visiting Northam and all the intervening settlements. I was thus enabled to draw a comparison between the present and past year, when I visited the district at the same season.

I scarcely saw a single farm where there was not additional land cleared, cropped, or fallowed.

I had the satisfaction of seeing many ticket-of-leave holders and conditional-pardon holders settled upon land, and doing well; in every case generously assisted at the commencement by the free settlers.

I met and conversed with many men who a few years since were shepherds, now the owners of large herds of cattle, sheep, and horses, and with extensive farms under cultivation. I did not see a gloomy countenance or hear a discontented murmur.

The land sales are steadily increasing; a very small portion of the community, bond or free, unemployed; and the paupers of the colony consist of a very few persons, permanently incapacitated from earning their bread by reason of old age or other infirmity.

Many who were hired servants a few years since are now employers of labour, and extending their farming operations daily.

The number of traders, importers, and commission agents are out of all proportion to the number or requirements of the population, and some of these, who formerly realized 200 per cent. profit upon imported articles, are the only murmurers I have met with. Contrasting the prices of imported articles with their cost in England, their profits must still far exceed those which would be considered remunerative elsewhere.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

The supply of colonial-grown flour will, I have every reason to believe, this year exceed the demand for home consumption, and can be profitably sold at a price to defy competition.

Pork, bacon, and hams have hitherto been largely imported; and I know of one settler alone who has this year killed 500*l.* worth.

Home-made dried fruits and colonial wine, both of excellent quality, are displacing imports under those heads, and will ere long become articles of export.

I would not have deemed it necessary to trouble you with these hasty remarks, but for the misrepresentations (I would hope unwittingly) put forth by a small body of persons whose individual profits may have decreased.

It may not be improper for me to add, that my reception throughout the district was most cordial and flattering.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

NEW ZEALAND.

NEW ZEALAND.

No. 42.

No. 42.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Gore Browne to the Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth, Bart.

(No. 21.) Auckland, New Zealand, March 3, 1856.

Sir, (Received June 23, 1856.)

Feb. 28, 1856.

I have the honour to forward a copy of the Blue Book for the year ending 31st December 1854, together with an explanation of the delay attending its completion, by the Colonial Secretary.

2. The Collector of Customs at Nelson, who is the only officer under my control mentioned by the Colonial Secretary, has been written to again in strong terms, by the last mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS GORE BROWNE.

The Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth, Bart.,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 42.

Enclosure in No. 42.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Auckland,

Sir, February 28, 1856.

I have the honour to lay before your Excellency the Blue Book for the year 1854, and in explanation of the long delay that has taken place in preparing it, I beg leave to state that in consequence of the numerous changes that have taken place since the introduction of the new constitution and the division of the colony into six provinces, the difficulties in obtaining the necessary information for its compilation have very much increased.

Although the usual applications for information accompanied with requisite printed forms were issued some time before the end of 1854, I have not yet been able to obtain returns from the Collector of Customs of Nelson, nor from the provincial authorities of Wellington or Canterbury, notwithstanding that the omission has been repeatedly brought under the notice of the officers who should have sent in the returns. After waiting a considerable time for them it became necessary to seek out the little information concerning the above-named provinces which the book contains from such records and sources of information that were otherwise available. This entailed greater labour than usual, and after all that has been accomplished, I regret to say that the book is still incomplete, as, for example, no statement could be given of the exports and imports of the whole colony in the absence of the Nelson Custom House returns, nor could a comparison be instituted between the trade of the year 1854 and that of the preceding year, as is required.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ANDREW SINCLAIR,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Governor Browne, C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

PART V.

EASTERN COLONIES.

PART V.—EASTERN COLONIES.

CEYLON.

CEYLON.

No. 43.

No. 43.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir H. G. Ward to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 94.) Pavilion, Kandy, June 9, 1856.
Received July 23, 1856.

Sir,

In transmitting the Blue Book for the year 1854, I was unable, from my recent arrival in the colony, to accompany it with any remarks; and although I have now completed my first year in Ceylon, and have visited, personally, a considerable portion of the island, its circumstances are so peculiar and its interests so varied, that I still feel much diffidence in attempting to submit to you a connected view of its position or its wants, and must solicit indulgence for conclusions which may be altered or modified by further experience.

Finance.

2. It is highly satisfactory to me to be enabled to begin by informing you that the finances of the colony are in a prosperous state. The comparative statement of the revenue of Ceylon for the years 1854 and 1855, prepared by the Acting Auditor General, Mr. Lee, shows that the net increase in 1855 amounted to 68,231*l.* 18*s.* 6½*d.* The excess of revenue over expenditure within the year, notwithstanding a large supplementary estimate*, amounted to 70,663*l.* 16*s.*, the expenditure, including a sum of 71,171*l.* 19*s.* 11½*d.* for military protection, having been 405,609*l.* 12*s.* 11¼*d.*, while the revenue was 476,273*l.* 8*s.* 11¼*d.*

* 40,760*l.* 1*s.* 4¼*d.*

3. The principal items of increase in the revenue were,

1. The Customs - - -	£32,884
2. Land sales - - - -	5,627
3. Land revenue - - -	12,310
4. Tolls, bridges, ferries, roads, &c. -	4,338
5. Pearl fishery - - -	11,050

I omit the smaller items, which will be found in the Auditor General's very able Report.

4. The increase in the Customs is ascribed partly to large importations of paddy and other grain from India, in consequence of a deficient harvest at home, and partly to an increase in the trade of the island generally, the thriving position of the coffee districts encouraging a larger introduction of every article of European produce. In the one case, the increase in the custom house receipts appears to indicate distress, rather than prosperity; in the other, it bespeaks the healthy and vigorous action of successful industry. The two, fortunately, are not incompatible here, for the great bulk of the rice imported is consumed by the Coolies employed upon the coffee estates; and though prices at times were undoubtedly high in the principal towns, it may be questioned whether the mass of the agricultural population felt the pressure to anything like the same extent, the scarcity of rice in the market simply showing that, after providing for their own consumption, the Cingalese cultivators had little rice for sale. The increase of the land revenue* was due to the improvement in the crops of 1855, as compared with those of 1854. The land sales* are, or rather would be, if the survey department could keep pace with the demand, the best criterion of the prospects of the coffee planters. The tolls, bridges, &c.* show the increasing activity of trade; while the receipts from the pearl fishery* have come most opportunely, after an interval of nineteen years, to augment the resources of the colony at a moment when their fuller development, in my judgment, depends upon a judicious application of the means which are happily at the disposal of the Government and of the Secretary of State.

* 12,310*l.*
* 5,627*l.*
* 4,338*l.*
* 11,050*l.*

5. For, although the revenue of the present year will probably not be quite equal to that of its predecessor, the Collector of Customs and the Auditor General anticipating a decrease of 12,000*l.* in the Customs alone †, while there

† This anticipation has not been verified up to the present time, the Customs revenue for the first four months of 1856 having amounted to 60,727*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*, while that of the first four months in 1855 was 60,821*l.* 11*s.* 3¼*d.*

are no pearl banks in a sufficiently forward state to be fished before March 1857, still the large surplus of the past year*, added to the † balances of several preceding years, during which the financial position of the colony, slowly recovering from a long series of reverses, imposed the necessity of a rigid economy upon my predecessors, renders the balance sheet of 31st December 1855 by far the most favourable statement of the kind that has been transmitted for many years from Ceylon.

* 70,663*l.* 16*s.*

† Vide enclosed statement of revenue and expenditure from 1849 to 1854, shewing a net surplus revenue of 76,726*l.* Enclosure 1.

6. The assets of the colony are stated in this document at 305,097*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*; the liabilities, including deposits, and the whole of the Treasury notes not yet cancelled, at 86,619*l.* 3*s.* 8¼*d.*, leaving a balance in favour of the Ceylon Government of 218,477*l.* 19*s.* 11¾*d.* But this includes a sum of 104,746*l.* 14*s.* 6¼*d.* under the head of "Revenue Debts outstanding, as per Returns from different Government Agents." Most of these are of very ancient date, and have formed the subject of frequent correspondence with Her Majesty's Government, and of repeated proceedings in the courts of law. The probability, or possibility, of realizing any portion of these claims may be considered as tolerably well ascertained; and I am sorry to say that out of the large amount due 38,620*l.* 6*s.* 5½*d.* are pronounced to be "wholly irrecoverable," and "awaiting the authority of the Home Government for allowance;" 54,901*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.* are still, nominally, in Court, but with little prospect of a favourable result, and 11,225*l.* 7*s.* 2½*d.* are alone considered to be "recoverable." I therefore deduct 93,521*l.* 7*s.* 3¾*d.* from the balance of 218,477*l.* 19*s.* 11¾*d.* given by the Auditor General, and this leaves 124,956*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* as the real surplus in the hands of the Ceylon Government on the 1st January 1856, and available for such works of acknowledged public utility as may be sanctioned by the Secretary of State, in addition to the ordinary revenue of the year.

7. The whole of the Treasury notes are included amongst the liabilities of the Government. The value of the notes originally issued was 87,500*l.* Of these 67,454*l.* are in the hands of the Government, and 20,000*l.* still outstanding. The notes will be transmitted to England as they are cancelled. Their place has been fully supplied by the notes of the Oriental Bank, which, although not a legal tender, are re-issued without difficulty by the Kutcherries at par. The mercantile bank has not yet qualified itself for the enjoyment of a similar privilege, but hopes shortly to be in a position to do so; and judging by the experience of the last six months, not the slightest inconvenience will result to the Government or the community from the change made in the paper currency of the colony, by the instructions contained in Lord John Russell's Despatch No. 5, of the 8th May 1855, notwithstanding the apprehensions that were at one time entertained as to its effects.

8. I had the honour of calling your attention some time ago to the undesirableness of leaving so large a sum as 124,000*l.* wholly unproductive in the Treasury vault, and I received authority from you to enter into negociations respecting it with the Oriental Bank. These have not yet led to the desired result; and it remains, therefore, for Her Majesty's Government to decide to what extent and in what way the balance may be turned to the best account. Questions respecting an unappropriated surplus have not yet arisen in this colony; but presuming that, under certain limitations with regard to the amount to be employed in any one year, I may regard the sum now in the Treasury as available for public purposes under the usual conditions, namely, a vote of the Legislative Council upon the recommendation of the Governor, sanctioned by the Secretary of State, I shall proceed to consider the important question of public works, upon which the position of Ceylon, as a coffee-producing colony, in the European market, mainly depends.

Public Works.

9. For it is not enough to have a climate favourable to the growth of the coffee plant, and Crown lands, still unoccupied, adapted to its cultivation. There must be the means of conveying the crop to the port of shipment at a reasonable cost, especially where, as is usually the case here, the estates themselves are not provided with buildings for drying and sorting the coffee, and

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where the district is not populous enough to furnish the labour required for the various processes which are found necessary before putting it on board. Hence, the general anxiety for a railway between Colombo and Kandy, or such other point in the interior as will secure the readiest access to the sea to the largest number of estates. Hence, too, the incessant complaints, during Sir G. Anderson's government, about the state of the roads, which, partly from a succession of wet seasons, and partly from the dearth of funds, unquestionably furnished just grounds of dissatisfaction, large as the sums expended upon them were; for where bandies, with oxen, are the sole means of conveyance for a coffee crop bordering upon 450,000 cwts., the shipment of which must be effected before the commencement of the south-west monsoon, which generally begins in May, everything that causes uncertainty or delay in the carriage of the coffee interferes most materially with the calculations of the planter, and in some cases converts anticipated profits into actual loss. I know of one district (Badulla) in which the cost of conveying a cwt. of coffee to Colombo, at the time when the Nuwera Ellia Road was most out of repair, amounted to fourteen shillings per cwt.; while so much time was spent in the transit that bandies were often three months upon the road, the distance being only 155 miles.

10. The want of some surer, quicker, and cheaper mode of communication is, therefore, generally felt; and though there are differences of opinion in the colony as to whether the best mode of obtaining this will be by an agreement with a company, or by a Government loan, though there are doubts as to the precise line which a railway should follow, and fears (not without good reason) that the supply of labour will be inadequate to meet the demands both of the railway works and of the estates, many of which are only now recovering from the pressure of less favourable years, still the question appears to me to be only a question of time. Foreign competition will render a railway indispensable, and, sooner or later, it must be made.

11. All that the Government did last year, or can do while this matter is pending, is to take care to maintain and extend, so far as possible, those lines of road which from their geographical position are sure to become tributaries to the railway, whatever be the line ultimately adopted, and I have constantly acted upon this principle in dealing with the various proposals that have come before me for roads and bridges, and repairs. The main road between Kandy and Colombo has been kept in excellent condition; the road to Nuwera Ellia, which forms the means of communication with the coffee districts of Gampola, Pusilawa, Dimbolla, and ultimately Badulla, has been thoroughly repaired. The communication between Kotmalie and Gampola, where the great ferry over the Mahawilla Ganga is established, has been restored, and the site selected for an iron suspension bridge, which, after remaining for nearly thirty years in the commissariat stores, is now about to replace at Gampola a means of conveyance which, however well adapted to the former circumstances of the colony, is now found wholly insufficient for its wants.

12. By the Report of the Commissioner of Public Works, which I shall direct to be prepared, in future, in a different form, as, from the absence of any classification of the items according to provinces, it requires a very intimate knowledge of the island to trace the amount of work done in each,—it appears that, in the course of 1855, 11,408*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* were spent upon the up-keep of the main Kandy Road; and 1,296*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* upon the Peradenia Bridge, which forms so essential a part of the communication with Colombo; 5,796*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* were laid out upon the line between Peradenia and Nuwera Ellia; 4,556*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* upon the road to Galle; and 1,493*l.* in constructing four miles of new road in the northern province, between Jaffora and the Elephants Pass, which was absolutely indispensable for the use of the cocoa-nut estates. The whole sum expended by the Government within the year for the up-keep of roads and canals was 39,594*l.*, to which must be added 15,929*l.* contributed in labour or commutation money, under the Road Ordinance of 1848, making 55,523*l.* in all. The repair of bridges is stated at 2,724*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, of public buildings at 4,334*l.* 12*s.* 2¼*d.*, while the cost of new buildings was 2,607*l.*, and of the department altogether 64,515*l.* 4*s.* 3¼*d.*, making, with the 15,929*l.* 5*s.* 9¼*d.* of ordinance labour, a total of 80,444*l.* 10*s.* 0½*d.*

13. Speaking with the advantage of recent experience, I have no hesitation in stating that many of these items are wholly insufficient for the objects proposed; for instance, the amount taken for the repair of public buildings does not suffice to preserve many of the courts, rest-houses, and cutcherries, which I have seen in the eastern and northern provinces, from premature decay, attended naturally with great ultimate expense, as it becomes necessary to rebuild entirely what a small annual outlay might have preserved. In like manner the bridges, with the exception of the main lines of road to Kandy and Galle, are in a most discreditable state, and will require a heavy expenditure to make up for past neglect. Upon one bridge*, where a Government toll is levied, the contractor has thrown up his contract, the bridge being in so dangerous a state that neither cattle nor carts can pass; and in several other instances that have come under my personal observation, where piers have been been built at a very heavy cost, no bridge has been constructed, so that the communication remains interrupted while the piers themselves are going to decay.*

* Madampe.

Examples :—
* Bridge at Ratnapoora on Colombo Road, at Parampootaar, on Trincomalie Road.

14. The same principle holds good with regard to all other descriptions of public work in a climate peculiarly wasting in its action upon iron and wood and earth works of every kind. The heavy cost of re-opening the water communication with Putlam might have been spared during the present year had the tolls been regularly applied in removing obstructions as they occurred; and I cannot too strongly express my opinion that it is a mistake to merge these local receipts in the general revenue, until, at all events, due provision has been made for the maintenance of those conditions from which the receipts are derived. I shall hope to be enabled to submit some proposal to Her Majesty's Government upon this subject, in the course of the next session of the Legislative Council, and in the meantime, I have agreed with the Colonial Secretary to take a larger vote in the estimates, which are now preparing, for repairs.

15. With regard to new roads and new bridges it is obvious that the amount laid out in 1855*, cannot form a standard for subsequent years in a colony where fresh lines of communication are constantly called for by the large investments of capital made, and where the purchasers of Crown lands evince so laudable a readiness to co-operate with the Government in bringing the new districts thus opened into contact with the old. To assist this onward movement, by which it so largely benefits, for the prosperous state of the revenue is the result of the increasing prosperity of the community, is, in my humble judgment, the secret of that farther progress to which I confidently look. It depends upon a judicious use of all available means, and a wise liberality will be found the best economy in the end.

* New roads 2,600*l.*, new bridges 211*l.* 14*s.*

16. You will observe, Sir, that there is no mention of irrigation works in the Blue Book of 1855, and with the exception of a small grant for the repair of the "Ooma Ella," sanctioned by Mr. MacCarthy, while acting as Lieutenant Governor, and added to by me, very little was done in a matter deeply interesting to the native population as well as to the community at large. I entertain little doubt that by a well considered application of a portion of the surplus funds now in the Treasury vault, a large addition may be made, at a comparatively small expense, to the cultivation of paddy, and consequently to the revenue, while nothing that the Government can do would afford so much gratification to the Kandyans in particular, the cultivation of rice being the occupation in which they most willingly engage. The subject is deserving of your most serious attention, and it will be my duty to bring it before you in many different shapes. I have called for reports from all the Government agents upon the state of the tanks and watercourses in their respective provinces, and the amount of land that might be brought into cultivation by their repair. A draft ordinance, affording facilities for the revival of some of the ancient village water rights, and creating a local tribunal for the settlement of disputes, is under consideration, and may, I think, be brought into an useful and practical shape.

Surveying Department.

17. The Tabular Report of the Surveyor General shews that in the course of the year 1855, 83 lots, consisting of 10,378 acres of land, were sold, realizing a sum of 19,919*l.* 5*s.* 7½*d.*, while the expense of the department in salaries and contingencies did not exceed 5,365*l.* 15*s.* 3¾*d.*, from which must be deducted

Enclosure 2.

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1,380*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* for fees received from the purchasers over and above the cost price, leaving the net expense 3,985*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* Taking the receipts and the fees together (21,299*l.* 13*s.* 6½*d.*) the Government, by an outlay of 5,365*l.* 15*s.* 3¾*d.* has gained very nearly 16,000*l.*; and it is my belief that for many years to come every increase in the working strength of the department will be followed by a similar increase in its receipts.

18. The Surveyor General, Captain Gosset, is the first to admit and proclaim the impossibility of meeting the demand for surveys with the means now at his disposal, although these have been considerably extended by the additions made to the department at the close of the last session of the Legislative Council. But a much larger force of trained and competent men is required to do justice to the work in hand. All that can be effected as present is to provide for the most pressing requirements of the service; and as these are naturally considered to consist more especially of the applications for large blocks of Crown land, adapted for coffee planting, the assistant surveyors are hurried from one part of the central province to another, as fast as the arduous nature of their duties and their own physical powers will admit, without the possibility of making provision for smaller, but not less just or less urgent, demands; and these, unfortunately comprise nearly the whole of the native claims.

19. In my first address to the Legislative Council (July 1855), I had occasion to remark upon the discreditable position of the Government with regard to the native purchasers of land in 1848, who had been left for ten years without a title to allotments bought and paid for, under a Government proclamation, to the great injury of their families, and the discouragement of agricultural pursuits, in which a large body of monied natives is anxious to engage, if placed in a position to do so safely. I am sorry to say that no step has yet been taken to repair this breach of faith. Every man at present in the Surveying Department has his allotted work. Two officers (Mr. Braybrooke and Mr. Ferguson) have been forced to leave the island on sick leave, and there is no one to supply their places. And, notwithstanding the greatest good will and the most unremitting exertions on the part of all concerned, it is impossible that one third of what ought to be done, and might be done, profitably in every sense, morally, pecuniarily, and socially, within the next five years, can even be attempted, without a large increase of strength.

20. I cannot better illustrate the consequences of this state of things than by bringing under your notice the case of the town of Matelle, as submitted to me by the Government agent for the central province. Matelle is 16 miles north of Kandy, and second only to that place in the amount of business done there. It contains 400 houses, built by wealthy Moormen within the last fifteen years, for the accommodation of the coffee estates, which have replaced the jungle upon the neighbouring mountains, and have created a large and busy population, which comes to Matelle for its supplies. The town contains rice stores, bazaars, shops, many of which have changed hands more than once, and some under a Fiscal's sale, thus giving an indirect sanction, on the part of Government, to the proprietary rights acquired. Yet, not a single man in Matelle can shew a title to the land which he occupies, and upon which his house is built. The whole of it was unquestionably Crown property, and might have been sold upon most advantageous terms if a survey could have been obtained. But though repeatedly applied for by the Government agents, whose correspondence clearly predicted the consequences of delay, this has not been effected up to the present day. Some of the occupants have held their land for the prescribed term of ten years and cannot now be disturbed. This is a dead loss. Others approach that term so nearly that the only thing that the Government can do is to make an equitable adjustment of claims, which cannot be enforced without injustice, to their full extent. Even for this it is absolutely necessary that the town should be surveyed, and the lots accurately marked out. I hope that the Surveyor General will be able to detach an officer upon this duty at a very early period, but I cannot say positively as yet that this will be done. The Government agent must then be authorized to make the best terms that he can under the peculiar circumstances of the case; and as there is apparently a disposition on the part of the inhabitants to meet the question fairly, provided they can obtain a good title to property which they have so largely improved, I hope that a settlement may be amicably effected, though not without a heavy

pecuniary loss, if we compare what may now be realized with what might have been obtained had a survey been made in 1848, and had the Government been thus enabled to deal freely with the various applicants for land.

21. The case of Matelle may be thought an extreme one and not likely to recur, but it illustrates the system. The differences are simply differences of degree. What has occurred at Matelle is occurring in every part of the island where new roads are opened, or new branches of industry spring up. Men will not be shut out from land which they can neither lease nor buy, and which the Government does not use. They become squatters, they plant, they cultivate, they form little colonies, along the lines of Minor Road. The Government agent sees his district improving and cannot check its progress by a rigorous application of the law. And so the thing goes on until one of two things happens, either that the rights of the Crown lapse, by length of possession, or that an attempt is made to assert them by ejecting the tenant, who defends, in that case, by every species of legal fraud, a property of which he would have been the willing purchaser, but which he will not allow to be taken from him, when improved by the labour of many years.

22. I cannot too strongly express my opinion that this state of things is a most dangerous one; that it fosters discontent, litigation, and fraud, and that every effort should be made to put an end to it by a Government which values the attachment or morality of the people committed to its charge. The subject is receiving my most anxious attention, and I hope, with the assistance of the present very able Surveyor General, Captain Gosset, to be able to submit to you a measure that will at all events mitigate an evil which it is impossible entirely to remove without an expenditure which the colony cannot afford.

Legislation.

23. Very little was done in the way of legislation during the session of 1855. I was not in a position myself, from my recent arrival in the colony, to suggest any new measures, and an ordinance "to provide for the security of the Pioneer Pension Fund," with three other ordinances for the amendment of existing Acts, were the only bills that I found prepared. The session was occupied with the proceedings respecting the railway, the consideration of the estimates, and other current business, in the discussion of which it is most gratifying to me to state that the greatest unanimity and good feeling prevailed.

Public Health.

24. With the exception of the northern province, where a considerable number of cholera cases occurred during the earlier part of the year, no disease partaking of the character of an epidemic can be said to have visited Ceylon in the course of 1855. A certain number of deaths from small pox there always must be until vaccination becomes universally diffused; and the cholera, the germ of which is constantly re-imported from the coast of India by the immigrant Coolies, seems to be almost indigenous. But it has not during the past year found here those atmospheric conditions which seem to be essential to its progress, and after a few isolated cases it disappears. This is the more remarkable as no precautions are taken with regard to quarantine, to the non-enforcement of which the recent outbreak of cholera in the Mauritius is ascribed.

Imports and Exports.

25. The imports and exports of 1855 show a steady increase, as compared with those of the preceding year.

The imports are stated at	£1,457,770	0	0
Those of 1854	1,225,350	0	0
Increase	£232,420	0	0
Exports 1855	£1,350,410	0	0
1854	1,236,938	0	0
Increase	£113,472	0	0

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The quantity of cinnamon exported was less in 1855 by 64,000 lbs., but coffee rose from 407,621 cwts. to 506,540 cwts., being an increase of 98,919 cwts.; and the general revenue derived from imports and exports amounted to 143,040*l.* in lieu of 109,775*l.*, which was the amount in 1854. The principal item of increase was no doubt in the duties on rice and paddy, the money value of the imports being stated at—

1855 - - - -	£564,464
1854 - - - - -	412,318
Difference -	£152,146

But I have explained why this apparent scarcity of one of the necessaries of life with an eastern population is not incompatible with a state of prosperity in Ceylon, a larger proportion of the rice imported being required for the support of the imported Cooly labour upon the coffee estates.

Education.

Enclosure 3.

26. The Fourteenth Report of the Central School Commission contains a full and interesting statement of the progress made in the works of public instruction in this island, and of the expenditure connected with it. The subject is too large to form a fit matter for incidental discussion, and I have had as yet neither time nor opportunities sufficient to make myself well acquainted with it; that much has been done there is no doubt, that more might be done, could means be found to inspire parents with a local interest in their schools, and so to ensure the more regular attendance of the children, seems to be the feeling both of the Commission itself and of its very intelligent inspector, Mr. Brooke Bailey. In the Ionian Islands, where the same apathy at one time prevailed, a remedy was found by calling upon the inhabitants of each village to bear half the expense of the school established in it, and by transferring the school to another village whenever the number of pupils fell short of the minimum required to cover the expenditure. The number of schools being fixed for each island, there were always abundance of candidates for the privilege of having a school in a particular locality; and while this acted as a stimulus upon the village communities, the masters took a greater interest in their work, because if the attendance fell below the proper standard they lost their situation, while the Government made over to them whatever excess there might be in the receipts, regarding this as the fruit of their exertions.

For example, the salaries paid to masters, on my first going to Corfu, were $7\frac{1}{2}$ dollars a month. This was reduced to $3\frac{1}{2}$ dollars, and no school was licensed unless there were 30 pupils, whose united payments made up the 7 dollars. If the master by attention and skill obtained 40 or 50 pupils, he had the benefit of it. If only 30 he had no ground of complaint, for his pay continued what it was originally. The system certainly worked well during the last year of my stay in Corfu, and something analogous to it might, I think, be introduced here with advantage. The question will be brought shortly under the notice of the School Commission.

Pearl Fishery.

27. The pearl fishery of 1855 was the first that has taken place since 1837, when the gross receipts amounted to 10,631*l.*, and the expenses to 3,177*l.* The receipts of last year were 10,922*l.*, and the expenses 2,632*l.*, making a net addition of 8,290*l.* to the revenue.

I am happy to say that the surveys recently taken confirm the expectation that another fishery may take place in March 1857, with every probability of a successful issue. A second bank is also reported to be in a sufficiently forward state to warrant a similar expectation for 1859; so that there appears to be a reasonable probability that the pearl banks of Aripo have recovered their productive powers, and that if not again exhausted by excessive demands, they will become a source of annual, or at all events, of biennial income to the Government.

The Government agent for the Northern Province expresses strongly his opinion that it will be indispensable, under these circumstances, that the Government should have a steamer at its disposal, both for the maintenance of

the police during the fishery,—a matter of great importance from the number of boats attracted by it from the coast of India,—and for the prevention of smuggling by unexpected visits. In this view I concur entirely.

28. I have now endeavoured, I fear at too much length, to bring before you the results of the year 1855, and to show their bearing upon the present year, as well as upon the past. If, in my desire to present to you a faithful picture of the state of things as I have found and seen them in various parts of the island, I have used any expression that may seem to reflect upon the administration of my predecessors, I beg to state most distinctly that nothing can be farther from my thoughts. It was the fate of Lord Torrington and of Sir George Anderson to enter upon the government of this colony at a time when progress was impossible, and when the most rigid economy was required to balance the expenditure with the receipts. The planting interest itself, now happily freed from its embarrassments, was in a very precarious state. Trade was subject to violent fluctuations, and so strongly was the necessity of great circumspection felt, both here and at home, that so late as 1852, when the expenditure of the year exceeded the income by 1,065*l.*, Sir George Anderson's attention was called, with some severity, to the fact, and he was warned not to allow of its recurrence.

29. It is obvious that under these circumstances many things must have been omitted that it was most desirable to do. Improvement was out of the question; repairs, where it was possible, were postponed in the hope of better times; salaries were reduced; revenue and judicial offices combined, which a short experience has compelled the Government again to separate; and it is to the firmness with which this hard and painful duty was fulfilled during a period of seven years (from 1848 to 1855) by my two predecessors, aided by Mr. Mac Carthy, who, both as Colonial Secretary and as Lieutenant Governor, most ably seconded their efforts, that I am indebted for the very different state of things which I have had the good fortune to find here. The statement to which I have already had the honour of adverting (par. 5) shews that in the years 1850, 1851, 1853, and 1854 there was an excess of revenue over expenditure, the result of this economy, amounting to 76,726*l.* Add to this the surplus of 1855*, and the balance in favour of the Government, shown by the Auditor General's Report, is more than accounted for. No merit is due to me for either. I am profiting by the labours of others, and by a prosperity which I have found, not made. My sole duty is to avail myself of the altered circumstances of the colony as to advance its further development by submitting to you plans founded upon an accurate knowledge of the localities to which they apply, not too large for present resources yet large enough to meet the general demand for improved means of communication, and for an expanding field on which to employ native industry. These plans I am now preparing, in connexion with the estimates for the present year; and, coming before Her Majesty's Government, as I hope they will do, with the concurrence of the Colonial Legislature, they will, I know, receive from you that consideration to which they are entitled, as bearing upon the future welfare of one of the most interesting dependencies of the Crown.

* 70,663*l.* 16*s.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. WARD.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

The Reports of the Civil Engineer and the Deputy Commissary General on the government houses at Colombo and Kandy, and the furniture contained in them, required by circular Despatch of the 9th August 1851, are herewith forwarded.

Enclosure 4.
Enclosure 5.

CEYLON.

Encl. 1 in No. 43.

Enclosure 1. in No. 43.

STATEMENT of the Estimated and Actual REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the Government of Ceylon, from 1849 to 1854.

	Revenue.						Expenditure.					
	Estimated.			Actual.			Estimated.			Actual.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1849 - -	409,300	0	0	409,306	14	4¾	407,654	0	0	418,424	14	2¾
1850 - - -	401,500	0	0	415,667	8	7	401,943	0	0	390,425	4	11
1851 - -	414,500	0	0	429,700	17	7¾	413,450	0	0	409,123	14	9¾
1852 - - -	408,463	1	0	411,806	4	8¾	406,260	18	3½	412,871	8	4
1853 - -	403,698	0	0	412,835	7	11¼	403,223	13	8¼	386,519	4	2
1854 - - -	404,000	0	0	408,041	10	4¾	402,659	3	4½	393,267	18	0¼

STATEMENT of the Actual RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the Government of Ceylon, from 1849 to 1854.

	Actual Receipt.			Actual Expenditure.			Excess.			Balance.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1849 - -	409,306	0	0	418,424	0	0	9,118	0	0			
1850 - -	415,667	0	0	390,425	0	0	-	-		25,242	0	0
1851 - -	429,700	0	0	409,123	0	0	-	-		20,577	0	0
1852 - -	411,806	0	0	412,871	0	0	1,065	0	0			
1853 - -	412,835	0	0	386,519	0	0	-	-		26,316	0	0
1854 - -	408,041	0	0	393,267	0	0	-	-		14,774	0	0
							10,183	0	0	86,909	0	0
							Deduct Excess		-	10,183	0	0
				Net Saving in six years			-	-	-	76,726	0	0

R BRAYBROOKE.

Encl. 2. in No. 43.

Enclosure 2. in No. 43.

PROGRESS RETURN of the SURVEYOR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT, from 1st January to 31st December 1855, shewing the Number of Lots and Quantity of Land in each Province advertised for Sale in 1855, the Number of Lots and Quantity of Land sold in each Province, the Prices realized, the Fees recovered by the Surveyor General's Department, and the Expense of the Department during the same Period.

Advertised in 1855.

Number of Lots.	Contents.			Remarks.
	A.	R.	P.	
Central Province - - - - 46	7,438	3	18	Twenty trigonometrical stations were erected and observed from for the fixation of the surveys.
Western Province - - - - 25	177	2	35	
North-western Province - - - 3	1,159	–	23	
Total - - - - 74	8,775	2	36	

Sold in 1855.

Number of Lots.	Contents. A.	R.	P.	Amounts for which sold. £	s.	d.	Remarks.
Central Province - - 64	8,744	3	12	17,122	10	7½	
Western Province - - 12	20	2	2	514*	15	0	* May be a few pounds in error, in consequence of incomplete return.
North-western Province - 5	1,465	—	16	2,130	0	0	
Eastern Province - - 2	148	1	8	152	0	0	The excess in quantity sold over that advertised is caused by some of the lots sold in 1855 having been advertised in previous years.
Total - - 83	10,378	2	38	19,919	5	7½	

Amount of Fees recovered during the Year 1855, being in addition to the Sums realized by the Sales.

	£	s.	d.
Central Province - - - - - -	1,357	9	9
Western Province - - - - -	15	18	4
North-western Province - - - - -	6	7	10
Southern Province - - - - -	0	12	6
	£1,380	7	11

Expenses of the Surveyor General's Department, for the Year 1855.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries :—Fixed - - - -	3,090	19	1			
Provisional and temporary - -	656	6	0			
				3,747	5	1
Variable :—Contingencies - - -	53	2	5			
Transport - - - -	334	4	6			
Miscellaneous - - - -	1,231	3	3¾			
				1,618	10	2¾
				£5,365	15	3¾

General Remarks.

In addition to the regular surveys, other operations were attended to, such as surveys for local purposes, of roads for the connexion of the work, reconnoissances of the country, &c.; but, including these, the average cost per acre, 13*s.* 4*d.* (obtained by dividing the total of expenditure of the Department by the number of acres advertised), shows an improvement on the previous average, 17*s.*, quoted by the late committee in their Report on the Survey Department. The credit of this is due to Captain C. Sim, R.E., the Acting Surveyor General for eleven months of the period included in this Return.

(Signed) W. D. Gosset.

Surveyor General's Office, Colombo,
May 8, 1856.

Enclosure 3. in No. 43. Encl. 3. in No. 43.

Fourteenth Report of the Central School Commission for the Instruction of the Population of Ceylon.

In presenting to the Legislative Council the Fourteenth Report of their proceedings, the Central School Commission have to explain, that during the past year a representation was made to Government of the inconvenience and uncertainty in the practice, hitherto followed, of framing Reports for different years in different months, and permission was requested and granted to hold back the Report for 1855, until the returns for the whole year were complete, and the operations of the Commission to the close of the year could be set forth in full, with the inspector's reports to the same date. The present Report therefore embraces the whole of the year 1855, and may be most fitly commenced by noticing a temporary change in the Commission, consequent on the death of their late Secretary.

The Legislative Council having in their Report on the fixed establishments of the colony recommended the union of the offices of Secretary to the Commission and Inspector of

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Schools, his Excellency the Governor embraced the opportunity occasioned by Mr. Fraser's death, of requesting the opinion of the Commission as to the desirableness of carrying out the suggestion of the Council, and, upon their recommendation, the Inspector was appointed to act as Secretary, pending the re-organisation of the educational department by the Secretary of State. The Colonial Secretary's letter, communicating the appointment, is printed in the Appendix, as the simplest method of stating the advantages which may be anticipated from this change.

Among the members of the Commission there have been but few changes; but the appointment of the Honourable George Lee, Esq., in the room of Mr. Gibson, was accepted by the Board with considerable gratification, as being the addition to their numbers of a gentleman whose great interest in education generally, and whose former connexion with the School Commission, in the capacity of Inspector and Secretary, would render his presence at their deliberations productive of the most beneficial results. Mr. Caulfeild's place has been filled up by the appointment of the Rev. J. Macbean, the Presbyterian Chaplain of Colombo. In the expectation of Bishop Bravi's speedy return, no steps have been taken to fill up the vacancy during his absence.

The Colombo Academy.

Of the several educational establishments, the Colombo Academy naturally claims the first notice. In March of last year, the principal of this institution obtained leave of absence to proceed to England on medical certificate. The Commission took this opportunity of recommending to Government that the plan proposed by the Select Committee of the Legislative Council, viz., the union of the Central School with the Academy, should be tried. The Rev. Dr. Kessen was therefore appointed to act as Principal of the Academy during Mr. Boake's absence, and the Central School was transferred to the Academy buildings. But the arrangement being only a temporary one, the two schools have been kept perfectly distinct, and no alteration has been made in the regulations, which affect the subjects of study, and the payment of fees in each.

His Excellency the Governor honoured this institution with a visit, not very long after his arrival in the colony, and was pleased to express his satisfaction with the result of the examination held in his presence.

The Native Normal Institution.

The close of last year witnessed the completion, by the Second Class of Native Normal Students, of their course of instruction, which had been extended a year beyond the period originally determined upon, with a view to their attention being directed to the study of English. Of the eighteen students, seven were found deserving of a first-class certificate; while two only, whose attendance at the institution had commenced at a late period, were found unfit for employment, and have been allowed to remain on further trial. Four have received appointments in the Central Province, one in the Southern, and seven in the Western,—leaving four still unprovided for. Applications however for schools have been received from several villages, and the Commission are only awaiting communications from the public officers to whom they have been referred for report. These young men have enjoyed much greater advantages than their predecessors, and the Commission indulge the hope that the benefits conferred by them upon the rising generation will be, in some degree, commensurate with the trouble and expenditure which have been incurred in fitting them for their respective posts.

In selecting a new class of students, the Commission were induced to try if the education imparted, together with the prospect, to the well-conducted, of Government employment, would not be a sufficient incitement to young men to come forward as candidates for admission into the institution, without the additional incentive of the sum of 6*l.* per annum hitherto granted as subsistence-money; and they have much pleasure in reporting that the experiment has been a successful one, there being many more applicants than can be received; several of whom, they are glad to observe, are sons of petty headmen, and have given up salaried appointments for the purpose of availing themselves of the instruction which this institution affords. It has also been determined that periodical examinations of the students shall be held with a view of ascertaining whether the pupils are making sufficient progress to warrant their being allowed to remain in the institution.

Female Superior Schools.

The Commission look with as much satisfaction on the result of these schools as on any part of their operations. The superior education imparted by the European ladies in charge of them has tended not a little to raise the intellectual and moral standard of the females in those classes of the community for whose special benefit they were established; and the advantages arising therefrom are fully appreciated by them. Two of the ladies, the Commission regret to say, are on leave at present from ill health, but the best arrangements that the circumstances of the colony admit of, have been made for the performance of their duties during their absence; and these institutions will not fail to receive unremitting attention. There are 319 names on the books, and upwards of 250 girls are reported to be in daily attendance.

Elementary and Mixed Schools. (Boys.)

Of these two classes of schools there are 43 distributed among the different provinces, in the following proportion:—

	Elementary.	Mixed.
Western	6	9
Southern	2	4
Central	1	11
Eastern	0	3
North-western	0	5
Northern	0	2
	9	34

In these schools no fewer than 3,637 boys are receiving the elements of a very fair English education; and in some of them considerable advancement has been obtained, particularly in the study of mathematics and general science. These do not include the schools in connection with the different missions in the Northern province.

The Inspector's Reports will give a tolerably correct idea of the state of these schools, both as to their efficiency and their defects. To the removal of the latter the attention of that officer is constantly directed; and he has ample instructions to adopt such remedies as he may think best calculated to secure this object. Irregularity in attendance is the great difficulty the masters have to encounter, and one which there is little hope of overcoming, until the parents take more interest in the education of their children, and give the masters the aid of their influence and authority.

The attention of the Commission having been directed to the desirableness of uniting some of the elementary schools in Colombo, and to the large sum annually expended under the head of "rent," it was determined some time ago, to reduce the number of these schools to three,—two for the northern, and one for the southern portion of the town, — and, when suitable localities for the schoolhouses were selected, to apply to Government for a grant of money for their erection. Considerable difficulty, however, has occurred in the selection of sites, and the Commission are not yet in a position to make the application to Government.

Vernacular Schools.

The vernacular schools are established chiefly in the Western Province. There are at present 29 boys' schools, containing 1215 scholars, and 6 girls' schools, with 153 scholars. The number in attendance has varied considerably in different localities; having been as high as 70 in the highest, and not more that 21 in the lowest.

The Commission have every reason to hope that considerable benefit is accruing to the rising generation in the neighbourhood of these schools, but they have not infrequently to regret great apathy on the part of the parents; and they feel that the present generation must to a great extent have passed away, before those results can be looked for, which the establishment of these schools was intended to promote.

Industrial Schools.

The Commission have been applied to during the past year for aid towards the establishment of industrial schools at Kandy and Nuwara Eliya. In the belief that it is not consistent with the powers assigned to them to assist institutions of that nature, as such, but being unwilling at the same time to discourage the experiment, they have in the former case granted a master for the educational department, and in the latter have allowed the industrial branch to be engrafted upon the Government school already in existence at this station; and they look with a considerable degree of interest to the result of the praiseworthy exertions of those gentlemen by whom these schools have been commenced.

Northern Missions.

The Commission have learnt, with great regret, that the American missionaries in the Northern Province have declined, for reasons which it is not necessary to specify, any longer to accept the sum of 200*l.*, hitherto granted annually in aid of their schools; and they take this opportunity of thanking those gentlemen for the zeal and energy which they have displayed in the promotion of education, and of wishing them every success in carrying out those changes in their system, which have led, in some degree, to the termination of their more immediate connection with the Commission. The missionaries of the Roman Catholic, Church, and Wesleyan missions still continue to receive their grants; and the Commission hope, therefore, that it will not be found necessary to make any change in the arrangements which haue hitherto been adopted by them for the promotion of education in the peninsula of Jaffna.

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The number of schools and of pupils in attendance during the past year was as follows: —

	Schools.	Pupils.
American mission	13	423
Roman Catholic missions	2	140
Church missions	7	320
Wesleyan missions	2	150

Sub-Committees and Superintendents.

The Commission cannot conclude their Report without an expression of their thanks to the various Sub-Committees, and especially those of Kandy and Galle, and to many of the superintendents, for the interest they have evinced in the schools under their charge; but they would desire to impress upon others of the latter a fuller sense of the fact, that upon their energy and vigilance mainly depends the success of the efforts made to maintain in a creditable state the schools scattered over the country. The Commission would esteem it a favour if the superintendents could make it consistent with their convenience to examine their schools monthly in some at least of the subjects taught in the different classes, noting down in the record book, for transmission to this Board, the subjects in which the children were examined, and any opinion they may have been able to form as to the progress they were making. This would act as a constant stimulus to the masters, and would tend very considerably to increase their efficiency.

The Auditor-General's statement of the expenditure for education, during the year ending December 31st, 1855, will be found in the Appendix.

APPENDIX.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Colombo,
27th October 1855.

Gentlemen,

I am directed to acquaint you that his Excellency the Governor has been pleased, in approval of your recommendation, to nominate the Inspector of Schools to perform the duties of Secretary to the Commission pending the instructions of the Secretary of State in regard to the future organization of the educational department, and that gentleman has been ordered to enter upon the duties of the office without delay.

2. The Governor deems it right to observe, that in thus uniting the offices of Inspector and Secretary, he has had regard to the desirableness of relieving the Commission of much that has hitherto unnecessarily occupied the time and attention of its members; and his Excellency is pleased to direct that in future the functions of the Commission shall consist chiefly in considering the numerous important questions of principle that will naturally arise in connexion with the subject of education, matters of mere ordinary detail and official routine being attended to as they arise by the Secretary, under the directions of the President of the Commission, with whom it will rest to instruct the Secretary as to what matters it will be necessary to lay before the Board.

3. The Governor anticipates that considerable advantage will accrue to the cause of education in the colony from the additional attention which the Commission will thus be enabled to devote to many points of interest and importance, and his Excellency looks forward with confidence to the exercise of the same degree of energy and discretion that has hitherto characterized their proceedings.

I have, &c.,
P. W. Braybrooke,
Asst. Col. Secretary.

The President and Members of
the Central School Commission.

Inspector's Reports for 1855.

WESTERN PROVINCE—ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Negombo.

I was sorry to find this school still suffering to a considerable extent from the effects of the sickness and distress of the previous year. So many boys had been removed by death and other causes that the numbers in attendance had been considerably reduced, and of those present so many were new boys that the work of the school had had to be commenced as it were de novo, and there was consequently but a poor result to exhibit, though it is but due to Mr. Nicholas to add that no pains had been spared on his part to make the best of the untoward circumstances in which he had been placed.

Of 38 boys on the list 35 were present, half of whom were in the last class.

The boys of Class I. were examined in the books of Job, Jonah, Jeremiah, and Daniel, and in the Life of Christ; the answering was very satisfactory from all but one. They read from the History of England very well, and answered quite as creditably as I could expect. Two had advanced as far as fractions; the remaining three were working compound rules, as were also the boys of Class II. In geography, Classes I. and II. passed

a satisfactory examination on Europe and Asia, so far as the text book was concerned; but the maps were in such a tattered condition that it was almost impossible to use them. The reading lesson of Classes II. and III. was creditably gone through, and their sums worked correctly The boys of Class IV. are divided into three sections, not, however, differing very widely from each other; and I was glad to find all making satisfactory progress.

I could not but sympathise very much with the master under his extremely discouraging circumstances, and I sincerely hope that at my next visit I shall find he has had much less to try his patience than has been his lot during the last eighteen months.

I was glad to see that the burial ground close to the school was being enclosed by a high wall; this is a great improvement, but it would be much better that it should be closed altogether. Although a portion of the adjoining garden has been annexed to it, it is still far too small for the requirements of the town, and the frequent exposure of semi-putrid matter must be incompatible with the healthiness of the people.

Caltura.

Changes of the character intimated in my last Report having been carried out, there was a manifest improvement in every respect, although they had not been sufficiently long in operation to produce their full effect. Mr. Garth took charge of the school in September 1854, at which time there were 50 on the list, with an average attendance of 43. In six months the numbers were increased to 68, with an average attendance of upwards of 50. But the difference was most marked in the different manner in which the boys had been taught. They had not, it is true, learnt very much, for, from previous mismanagement, Mr. Garth had experienced considerable difficulty in teaching them; but what they had learnt they knew thoroughly. Mr. Garth commenced all their subjects de novo, proceeding slowly, but surely, according to their attention and progress.

Class I. and II. answered very satisfactorily in the earlier chapters of Genesis and St. Matthew. Eight boys in Class I. worked examples in reduction, and eight in compound multiplication; all were worked correctly, but the latter not very readily. Their reading from Book III. was very fair, and their answering gave decisive proof of the great pains that had been taken to convey to them the meaning of what they read. They had also been well grounded in the first principles of grammar, and wrote to dictation with tolerable accuracy. In geography, Classes I. and II. evinced a very creditable acquaintance with the maps of Europe and Asia. Class II. read from Book II. very nicely, and their answering was quite as good as could be expected from their imperfect knowledge of English. Five worked examples in compound division, and ten in the simple rules. The two lower classes have not advanced beyond words of three or four letters; but I have every hope that their progress will be rapid.

There was no writing in the school, there being no table sufficiently steady for the purpose. The state of the furniture in this school was reported on last year, and Mr. Garth had applied to remove the tables from Morottoo, but they had not yet been sent to him. It is very desirable that this should be attended to without delay.

MIXED SCHOOLS.

Kaigalle.

The attendance at this school still continues very small; 14 were present at the examination, but the average attendance during the previous six months had not exceeded eight. Religious instruction is imparted to the whole school orally from Watts's Scripture History; in the Old Testament the examination extended to Isaac's marriage, and in the New, to Christ's visit to Jerusalem with his parents. Great pains had evidently been taken to instruct all the children, for there was scarcely a single question missed by the boy to whom it was put. One boy was working practice, two reduction of money, two compound subtraction, and one simple division; the examples were worked correctly, but there was a want of quickness. The First Class read a passage in the Singhalese and English Reading Book (Balaprabodhana), both in English and Singhalese, very nicely indeed, and answered satisfactorily. The Second Class read Book II. in English and translated it into Singhalese, answering in the latter language very satisfactorily. Four boys passed a very creditable examination on the map of Ceylon. The writing, both in English and Singhalese, was very fair; in every thing, indeed, the school bore marks of being well attended to.

Avishawelle.

There are 15 boys on the list, all of whom were present on the day of examination, but the daily attendance is very small; six boys are divided into three classes, the rest repeat their lessons singly. In Class I. there is one boy, sixteen years old, not likely to remain long at school; he formerly attended the school, but left it for a year, and returned the previous month; his reading was not at all good, and he was not able to answer a single question, even as to the meaning of single words, as "wilderness, fasting," &c., he writes a good hand, but could not work examples in simple addition correctly. The reading lesson of Class II. did not contain words of more than two syllables, but they made several mistakes; and their translation of clauses was very incorrect; they read

Balaprabodhana pretty fairly, and answered tolerably well. The two boys of Class III. attempted syllables of two letters, but failed. Of the rest, one attempted words of three and four letters, but failed. He does not learn Singhalese because his parents do not wish it. Another read the volume of the Instructor which contains ancient history, but did not understand a word of it; he read Balaprabodhana pretty well, and answered satisfactorily. Two attempted Balaprabodhana, but read very badly, merely repeating it by rote; three were able to read words of three letters, but there had evidently been no attempt at explanation. The state of this school was most unsatisfactory; the master evidently pays but little attention to it. I do not think there is any necessity for a mixed school at this station; a vernacular one would fully meet all its educational wants.

Ratnapoora.

I was sorry to find that this school is still held in the same unsuitable place—a small verandah, close upon a narrow street in the middle of the Bazaar, and exposed to the sun almost immediately after mid-day. I was informed that the locality was an objection which prevented several from attending. The number on the list was 16, 15 of whom attended regularly; four were able to read St. Matthew's Gospel and the Third Daily Lesson Book very nicely, and showed by their answering that considerable pains had been taken to make them remember and understand what they had read; they worked examples in all the simple rules correctly and quickly; their penmanship was very creditable. Class II. were reading Daily Lesson Book, No. II., a second time; their pronunciation was good, and their spelling and translation of single words correct. Class III. had just begun the second book, and were making satisfactory progress. Class IV. were reading words of four and five letters. Most of the children are very young; but I had every reason to believe that they were constantly and carefully attended to.

Kandane.

On list 57; average attendance 48, of whom 42 were present at the examination, several being absent with leave, owing to the prevalence of small pox.

Class I. and II. read the Acts of the Apostles in Singhalese extremely well, and answered most satisfactorily. The English reading book of Class I. is Daily Lesson Book III., selections from which they appear to understand very well. They have advanced as far as practice in arithmetic, and the verbs in grammar.

The boys of Class II, read a lesson in Book II. correctly and intelligently, and answered both in it and other parts of the book satisfactorily. They worked examples in compound division, and wrote to dictation with remarkable correctness. Their writing was very good indeed, and had evidently been well attended to.

Class III. is divided into two sections, the upper one reading Book II., and the lower, Book I. Both gave evidence of great attention on the part of the master, to whose continued efficiency as a teacher I have much pleasure in again bearing testimony. He is very much in want of a black board and maps of the world and Palestine. The average attendance being 50, he is, I believe, entitled to an assistant, and he certainly requires one for the lower classes. The assistant at Dandoogama might be removed to this school, with a warning for his past neglect.

Pantura.

Mr. Van Cuylenoerg having been absent for some days before my visit, in consequence of the dangerous illness of his wife, and the death of one of his children, the school was naturally, to a certain extent, under a disadvantage; but the result of the examination was such as to prove his continued attention to it. The number on the list is 51, and the average attendance 45. Classes I. and II. were examined in the books of Job, Jeremiah, and Daniel, and the history of the Jews after their return from captivity; the answering was not quite so general as I should wish to see it, but very correct from those who did take part in it. In geography also, these two classes were united, and passed an extremely creditable examination in the maps of Europe and Asia. The boys of Class I. read from Book IV. with fluency and intelligence, and answered most satisfactorily: their parsing was very fair, and they wrote to dictation with tolerable accuracy. Seven worked examples in fractions, and two in proportion, with ease and accuracy. The reading of Class II. was very fair, and their answering satisfactory. Seven worked examples in simple proportion, and nine in the compound rules. Class III. answered very creditably in Singhalese on the Gospel of St. Luke, read and spelt lessons in Book II., and worked examples in the three first simple rules. The copy books of the whole school were in very good order, and gave proof of great attention on Mr. Van Cuylenberg's part.

Wadoowa.

The attendance of this school continues steady, and is, I believe, as great as can be expected from the locality. There are 30 boys on the list, with an average attendance of 27. The boys of Class I. are well up in the history of the Pentateuch and the Gospels; and those of Class II. in the latter. Examples in partnership and practice

were worked by Class I., and in the compound rules by Class II. The results were correctly brought out, but there was a want of quickness in performing the operations. The two classes passed a very creditable examination on Europe and Asia; and the reading and answering of both in Books II. and III. were satisfactory. Their knowledge of grammar is very fair, and their writing very good indeed. Class III. were examined in St. Matthew's Gospel in Singhalese, and acquitted themselves very creditably; they worked examples in the three first simple rules correctly and quickly, and read and translated simple sentences very fairly. The whole school bore marks of Mr. Parys' continued attention and diligence.

Caltura.—Girls.

Thre are 51 girls on the lst, of whom 18 learn English only, 10 learn English and Singhalese, and 23 learn Singhalese only. The elder girls read very nicely indeed, their pronunciation being unusually correct, and their answering satisfactory, both in the Gospel History and in several lessons of Book III. Only one girl was working examples in compound multiplication; the rest were in the simple rules; all worked correctly. The girls of Class II. are very young, but read very nicely, and spell correctly. The other children also have made quite as much progress as could be expected.

It is not at all easy to classify the girls who learn Singhalese, owing to the irregularity of their attendance, Mrs. Poppenbeek having succeeded in inducing some to attend her private school, who yet occasionally go back to the Government school. Twelve of the elder girls can read the New Testament fluently, and have a tolerably good knowledge of the principal events in our Saviour's Life. They also work examples in subtraction. The next six girls can read Balaprabodhana pretty well; the remainder are reading words of two and three letters, or are still in the alphabet.

The school had of course been considerably affected by the disturbance arising from Mrs. Poppenbeek's dismissal; but I hope that has nearly subsided, and that the school will go on quietly but successfully. I believe there is no superintendent at present. The school being held in the Wesleyan Mission Chapel, close to the assistant missionary's residence, it would be well, I think, to place it under his supervision.

VERNACULAR SCHOOLS.

Diwulpitiya.—Girls.

On arriving at this school between 10 and 11 A.M. I found neither mistress nor girls present. I sent for the mistress, but she was only able to collect a few little girls, none of whom could read; the daily attendance was said to be 20. The school is situated within a quarter of a mile of one of the Church Mission schools, and, if it is continued, might be placed under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Wood, of Cotta, in whose district it is.

Battacatra.—Girls.

This school had been moved from one part of the district to another, a few days before my visit, and was not, therefore, in full operation. Of 13 girls on the list, 7 were present, of whom one was able to read. Mr. Wood anticipates a much greater attendance than was ever likely to be procured in the former locality.

Kottawa.—Girls.

Of 40 children on the list, 22 were present; the attendance during last year ranged from 18 to 25, and up to the date of my visit there had not been fewer than 18 in attendance this year. I was pleased to see a much greater proportion of grown-up girls than is generally met with in schools of this class.

In Class I., twelve were said to be able to read the New Testament, but on attempting it none could read at all well, except the first girl, who is a member of the mistress's family; the rest made frequent mistakes, and did not appear to understand what they were reading. Six worked examples in subtraction correctly, explaining the principle satisfactorily, and two in addition.

In Class II., three were tried in Balaprabodhana, but evidently read it entirely from memory.

In Class III., only one girl was able to read words of two letters.

Needlework is supplied by the mistress, and by the girls themselves: it appeared to consist chiefly in marking letters and other ornaments on different articles of clothing.

Kottawa.—Boys.

This school commenced with, last year, 50 boys, but dwindled down to 38, and of these not more than half have been regular in attendance. In Class I., three boys read the New Testament very nicely, their pronunciation being free from the usual faults, their mode of reading intelligent, and their answering very satisfactory. One worked examples in compound addition, and the others in simple multiplication and division. They were also well acquainted with the early part of Watts's Scripture History. The boys of

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Class II. read Balaprabodhana very fairly; but the two lower classes had not made much progress.

This school is situated on the borders of the Church Missionary district, and might with advantage be placed under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Wood, who has schools in the surrounding villages. I directed the master to pay a little attention to the girls' school, particularly with reference to their reading, and the introduction of Watts's Scripture History.

Horagolle.

This school has been gradually decreasing in numbers, until at length it can scarcely be said to be in existence. During last year the average attendance up to May was 11; in June and July there was no attendance at all; and from August the average was 3. At the time of my visit there were only 10 on the list, of whom 5 were in attendance. The reason assigned by the master for this unsatisfactory state of things was, that the boys were employed by their parents, who had been in great distress for several months of the year. The locality too appears to be unsuitable, for there is no village near the school, and the only circumstance in favour of its present position is the fact of its being close to the residence of the modliar, who is the superintendent. He, however, is of opinion that the school had much better be removed to Poogooda or Giridra, populous villages on the cross road from Veyangodde to Hangwelle.

Of the boys in attendance, two read St. Mark's Gospel very well indeed, and answered satisfactorily; one of them worked examples in multiplication correctly. In Class II. one read words of three letters pretty well, but failed in an attempt to work an addition sum.

Weweldeniya.

The attendance at this school has not been at all good, but the master has been very attentive to those who were present; indeed he is one of our best vernacular masters. There are 24 boys on the list, of whom 18 were present at the examination; but the average attendance during the four months previous had not exceeded 10. In Class I. there were 5, in II. 10, and in III. 9 boys. Classes I. and II. read a chapter from St. Luke's Gospel very well indeed, and their answering on the Gospel History was satisfactory. They had only just commenced Watts's Scripture History, but had learnt it well. One worked examples in compound proportion, three in compound, and three in simple multiplication. They passed a very creditable examination on the Singhalese map of Ceylon, but had only learnt one chapter in the geography, on which they answered correctly. In Class III., two read words of two syllables; the rest were beginning the alphabet. The great distress in the country had affected the regularity of the attendance very considerably, many of the boys being kept away by their parents to catch fish, and for other occupations in which they do not generally employ them.

Hangwelle.

Of 26 boys on the list, 17 were present; but the average attendance during the previous six months had been much less. The first class read a chapter in the Acts very fairly, but did not appear to remember much of what they had read before. I gave them a lesson in Watts' to shew the master how to use it, and directed him to commence it at once. They all worked subtraction correctly and quickly. Their Singhalese copies were nicely written, and kept clean. The second class attempted a chapter in St. John's Gospel, but did not read at all well, nor was their answering satisfactory. I directed them to be put back to Balaprabodhana. The lowest class were learning spelling book and alphabet; but were not progressing satisfactorily. I was not at all pleased with the state of this school. With so few in attendance, those who are present ought to be well attended to.

Balangodde.

On the list, 13; present, 10. There did not appear to have been more than 15 or 16 boys on the list during the previous year, and of these one fourth was always absent. They ask for leave on the most trifling grounds; and if it is refused they stay away for several days. The remonstrances of the master and the advice of the korale are alike unheeded by them. Classes I. and II. read a chapter in St. Mark's Gospel together. In the former, containing four boys, two were able to read very well indeed; but the other two, not having been present for some time, appeared to have forgotten all they knew. None of the boys in Class II. could read at all well. Their answering on the passage read was tolerably good; but their recollection of previous chapters was very imperfect. One worked examples in compound proportion, one in compound multiplication, and one in simple division; and I was very much pleased with the quickness of their working, and with the intelligence with which they answered my questions on the principles of the different operations. Class III. read Balaprabodhana very fairly, and answered satisfactorily. Some of them learn English, and are progressing satisfactorily. Besides his ordinary school work, the master is frequently engaged in instructing young men in the neighbourhood, who are employed as vidahns, &c., and come to him chiefly for the

purpose of learning arithmetic. Although, therefore, the good apparently resulting from this school is not of any very great amount, yet I hope that it is producing some effect upon the neighbourhood, especially by the good example of the master, whose conduct in every respect is, I believe, most praiseworthy.

Minuwangodde.

On the list, 32; present, 24; average attendance during previous month, 21. During the last year there was a great deal of sickness in this district. In June the school was closed on account of the master's illness, and in July there was a very poor attendance. After that the average number was about 20. Nearly all the boys in attendance were new boys; many of the former scholars having died, and others having left school. They are divided into two classes, containing 14 and 18 boys respectively. The boys of Class I. read a chapter in St. Luke's Gospel very well indeed, and answered satisfactorily. Six of them worked examples in multiplication, and four in subtraction, correctly and with tolerable quickness. Their writing was not very good, owing to their not having been kept long enough at large text. In Class II. three boys had just commenced Balaprabodhana; but the rest were only reading words of two letters.

There has been no superintendent to this school for some time. I would suggest that Mr. Mendis, the modliar of the district and secretary of the Sub-Committee, be requested to undertake the superintendence of it.

Katane.

On the list, 24; average attendance varies from 10 to 15 in different months.

Since the change in the master, recommended by me last year, this school has improved very much indeed. I never knew it in such good order before, Notwithstanding great irregularity in attendance, all the boys had evidently been carefully attended to. This was particularly shown by the result of the examination in arithmetic. Not a single example was incorrectly worked by any of the boys: a result very seldom witnessed, and which could not arise from the boys copying from each other, as it is my practice to give a different sum to each boy. Religious instruction is chiefly imparted orally from Watts' and a Harmony of the Gospels, the passages referred to being also read by the boys. The examination extended from the creation to the call of Abraham, including, from the New Testament, the history of John the Baptist and the life of our Saviour up to His first miracle. The answering was most satisfactory. Not a single question was missed. The answering in the first chapter of the History of Ceylon was very satisfactory, and their reading extremely correct. Two worked examples in the compound rules, and two in the simple ones, correctly and quickly. Their writing was very fair. In Class II. the reading of Balaprabodhana was very good, and the answering correct. They write pretty well on slates, and work examples in simple addition. The boys of Class III. have read different portions of the Spelling Book, and were all making satisfactory progress.

Seedoowa.

I was glad to find this school still retaining its good position, both in respect of attendance and of progress. The attendance had never been less than 40 during the previous six months; and the answering in the different subjects was very creditable.

In Class I., the examination in the Old Testament embraced the reigns of Saul, David, Solomon, and their successors in both kingdoms; and in the New, the greater part of our Saviour's life. In the latter they were joined by Class II.

Class I. have nearly gone through the History of Ceylon. They read Singhalese very well indeed, and related the principal events with tolerable accuracy. In geography, they passed a creditable examination in the general view of the four quarters, particularly of Asia, but were not so well acquainted with the geography of Ceylon as they ought to be. Four worked examples in practice, three in compound division, three in simple division, and ten in multiplication. With the exception of three of the last, all were worked quickly and correctly. The boys of Class III. read Balaprabodhana very well indeed, and answered satisfactorily. They also worked examples in addition and subtraction. The children in Class IV. are making satisfactory progress in the earlier stages.

The assistant is evidently much more attentive than he used to be, and the school is consequently in better order. I was informed by the master that the parents of many of the children are anxious for them to learn English, and that many of the former pupils would return if such an arrangement were sanctioned. The people of this village having been for many years under the influence of Christian instruction through the Wesleyan Mission, are much more intelligent than many of their neighbours, and would, I am sure, appreciate such an addition to the advantages their children already enjoy.

Dandoogama.

The establishment of a Roman Catholic School in April last has had a considerable effect on the attendance at this school, 40 boys having left for the purpose of attending the former, leaving 60 names on the list, with an average attendance of forty.

Class I. 31 boys. Read a chapter in St. Mark's Gospel, and answered satisfactorily in the Gospel History, as also in that of the Old Testament down to the death of Moses They had only lately begun the geography of Ceylon, but were thoroughly acquainted with the little they had learnt. Two worked examples in simple proportion, and two in compound division; but the rest had not advanced beyond the simple rules. All the examples were worked correctly and with tolerable quickness. Their writing was very good indeed.

The boys of Class II. read Balaprabodhana very well, and answered satisfactorily. They attempted examples in addition, but were not very successful.

In Class III. twelve were reading the Spelling Book, and the rest learning the alphabet; both divisions were making satisfactory progress.

The average attendance being now reduced to 40, there is no actual need of the services of the assistant master, who, I regret to say, is not nearly so attentive as he ought to be, frequently absenting himself on insufficient grounds, and scarcely ever being in attendance at the proper time.

Bandaragama.

The number on the list at this school is 35; but, owing partly to the late distress, and partly to the services of the boys being required in the fields, the average attendance for some time had been less than 20. There were 24 present on the day of inspection.

The boys of Class I. were examined in the Gospel of St. Luke, and answered remarkably well. Their reading from the History of Ceylon was fluent, and free from the usual faults, and their recollection of what they had read was tolerably correct. They worked examples in long multiplication quickly and correctly. Their writing was very fair. The boys of Class II. read a passage from Balaprabodhana very nicely indeed, and their answering on several of the lessons was very satisfactory. Two worked examples in subtraction and two in addition. Those of Class III. read words of two letters, and write figures on slates. The last class are still in the alphabet.

The master of this school is evidently attentive to his duties, and the result is satisfactory.

Weedagama.—Girls.

The number on the list is 34, and the average attendance appears to be about 20. The state of the school is most unsatisfactory. There is one young woman kept at the head of it who can certainly read very well indeed, but evidently never has a single question put to her, and could not therefore answer any of mine; others presented themselves with the favourite chapter, St. Matthew V., open, but on turning to another chapter could not read at all, and the mistress confessed that they had read that chapter till they knew it by heart. I then tried both Class I. and II., except the first girl, in easy lessons in Balaprabodhana, but they could scarcely read them, and the lower classes were in a similar condition. I spoke very seriously to the mistress about her evident neglect, and warned her of the consequences of a continuance of it.

Desaster Caltura.—Girls.

On the list 25; average attendance 10 or 12. The mistress complains of great irregularity on the part of the children. Since Mr. Parys removed to Pantura there has been no superintendent. It would be well, I think, to ask Mr. De Hoedt to take charge of it. The upper girls professed to be reading St. Matthew's Gospel, but they made several mistakes, and did not read at all intelligently, nor was their answering at all satisfactory. The other classes have made but very little progress, and are in anything but a creditable state.

Dodangodde.

On the list 24; average attendance 18.

Of the boys now in attendance only seven were present at the last examination. The reading of Class I. was quite free from the usual fault, fluent, and intelligent; and their answering satisfactory both in the Gospel History and the early portion of the History of Ceylon. Two worked examples in reduction, and two in compound division, with readiness and accuracy. Their writing was not so good as in the generality of schools. The boys of Class II. had been extremely irregular in their attendance; one of them had not been present for a month; and the result was that their reading and answering were both unsatisfactory. The two lower classes are making good progress.

The modliar of the Corle, who resides in this village, confirmed the master's statement as to the irregular attendance of the children, and assured me of the master's constant attention to his duties.

Payagalle.

I was quite struck, on entering this school, with the youthful appearance of all the children, and found upon inquiry that nearly all had been newly admitted during the past year. The boys of Class I. answered remarkably well in the early history both of the Old and New Testaments; read a lesson in the History of Ceylon with fluency and intelligence, and worked examples in the compound rules.

The reading of Class II. in Balaprabodhana was, with a few exceptions, correct, and their answering satisfactory; they worked examples in simple addition. The boys of Class III. have gone through the Spelling Book, and read the parable of the Prodigal Son very nicely. Those of Class IV. can read words of three letters without hesitation.

The writing of the whole school was very creditable. I had every reason to feel satisfied with the state of the school and with the attention of the masters.

Barbaryn.

On list 72; present 58.

The answering of Class I. on the Book of Genesis and St. Matthew was satisfactory, except from two or three who had been lately moved up. Their reading from the History of Ceylon was fluent and intelligent, and their recollection of what they had read correct. They had not learnt much of the geography of Ceylon, but what they had learnt they remembered very well. They worked examples in simple multiplication. Their writing was very good. The answering of Class II. from the Harmony of the Gospels was not very good, owing, I suspect, to a defect in the method of communicating instruction orally; but their reading and answering from Balaprabodhana were both very satisfactory. They worked examples in simple addition. The boys of Class III. read words of three letters without hesitation. The alphabet class was not in very good order, being taught too much by rote; an error against which I cautioned the master, pointing out the best way of remedying it. I have never known this school in so good a condition before; the master is evidently very attentive. The room is sadly too small for the numbers in attendance. It would be well if a small addition could be made to the rent for the purpose of securing more suitable premises.

SOUTHERN PROVINCE.—GALLE.

Elementary School.

I was sorry to find the number in attendance at this school smaller than on former occasions, and still more so to observe how much younger they were than those who were formerly presented for examination. The natural consequence of this was of course a considerable lowering in the standard of education, and an apparent falling off in the school. But I have much pleasure in being able to bear testimony to the continuance of Mr. Anthoniesz' zeal and activity in the discharge of his duties, under what cannot but be very discouraging circumstances.

There were 45 on the list, and an average attendance of 37. Class I. 4; II. 17; III. 20; IV. 4. Classes I. and II. are under Mr. Anthoniesz, and Classes III. and IV. under the assistant.

Class I. In religious instruction, besides the principal prophecies of Daniel, the attention of this class had been directed to the first six chapters of Horne's Introduction, and the history of the Jews as contained in Tytler; their answering in all these subjects was very satisfactory. They read a passage from Book V. with great fluency and intelligence; their answering showed that they comprehended its meaning. They passed a very creditable examination in the history of ancient Rome, as given in Tytler, and, in conjunction with Class II., answered most satisfactorily in the geography of Africa and America. In arithmetic, the examination, which extended to fractions, I observed a want of precision in working the sums, which I brought to Mr. Anthoniesz' notice. The result in algebra and Euclid was not very satisfactory; but the best boys were absent on both the days of my visit, and of the two who were present I have always observed one to be an extremely careless and inattentive lad.

Class II. was examined in the Book of Joshua and the early chapters of the Acts of the Apostles; their answering was very satisfactory, except from two boys, one of whom had been lately admitted, and the other had been absent for two months. Their reading on Book IV. was fluent and intelligible, and their answering satisfactory; their parsing was not correct, and only half wrote correctly to dictation. The examples in arithmetic, extending from long division to proportion, were worked correctly and with tolerable quickness. Three worked examples in mensuration of superficies correctly, and proved the early Propositions of Euclid, Book I., very creditably.

Of Class III. 15 boys were present; their answering in the first half of the Book of Genesis, and in the early history of John the Baptist and our Saviour, was very satisfactory, so far as a few were concerned, but it was not so general as I could have wished. Three worked examples in division correctly; but half of the ten who attempted multiplication failed. Their answering on the maps of Europe and Asia was very creditable. Some read very nicely indeed, but others, being very young, were scarcely up to the Third Book; their spelling was remarkably correct. The four boys of Class IV. were all present, and appeared to be making fair progress. The writing of the whole school is evidently well attended to.

Galle Mixed School.

There having been some misunderstanding connected with the change of the head master of this school, the progress of the boys had been somewhat impeded; but matters

were quickly settling down at the time of my visit, and I have no doubt that ere long the favourable results of the change will be abundantly evident.

Mr. Jansz took charge of the school on the 1st of March. There were then 118 on the list, with an attendance of 57. During that month 29 left, of whom 16 were re-admitted, together with 12 new boys. There were 126 on the list at the time of my visit. The attendance in April was 65, but during the first week of May there were 85.

Class I. 12; II. 18; III. 20; IV. 32; V. 30.

Classes I. and II. were examined together in the history of the Israelites in Egypt and the Wilderness; their answering was remarkably good. The reading of Class I. in Book IV. was very correct, and their answering satisfactory. The examination in grammar was also creditable. Of six who attempted simple proportion four worked the examples correctly, and with considerable quickness. In geography their answering from the text-book was satisfactory, but there being no maps in the school they have no practice in a very important branch of the subject.

Most of the boys in Class II. read very nicely, but they scarcely know sufficient English to answer anything beyond the simplest questions. They had only just commenced grammar. Many of them were tolerably well acquainted with the map of Ceylon. Those who attempted compound multiplication worked the examples correctly, but the rest failed in simple division.

Of Class III. half the boys answered in the history of Jacob and Joseph in Singhalese, but the other half remained silent, a proof of unequal attention on the part of the master, against which I cautioned him. All read Book II. very nicely indeed, and so far as their knowledge of English went their answering was intelligent. Half of them worked examples in multiplication correctly, and pointed out a few of the principal places on the map of Ceylon. Their reading in Singhalese was fluent and intelligent, and their answering satisfactory.

The boys of Class IV. are equal to those of Class III. in their knowledge of English, and are working addition and subtraction.

Of Class IV. 14 boys read very fairly, and spelt single words and translated them into Singhalese quite correctly. The rest were reading words of two letters, or were still learning the alphabet, most of them having been newly admitted.

Great attention is paid to the writing of the whole school, and the progress is very satisfactory.

Galle.—Girls School.

There are 68 girls on the list in this school, and the average attendance is upwards of 50; but the majority of them are very young, and form the third class, which contains 40 children. There is a great want of books among the children, which is of course a great hindrance to their progress; but Mrs. Braybrooke hopes soon to remedy that evil by a supply of suitable books from England. I examined the first class in Scripture, Roman history, geography, and arithmetic; but had great difficulty in making the girls speak out. So far, however, as I could judge, they were making satisfactory progress in the different branches. The girls of Class II. are under Mr. Anthoniesz' care, and are progressing quite as satisfactorily as from their age and other circumstances could be expected. Class III., which is under Mrs. Anthoniesz, is divided into two parts; the upper part reading Book II., and the rest mere beginners. With the exception of a few girls in the upper classes, the children appear to be extremely poor, and not of a class to require so great an amount of expenditure.

Belligam.

It appears that Mr. De Zilva received an extract from the Commission's proceedings directing him to take charge of the Belligam school on the 7th of February; but having forwarded a remonstrance to the Commission, strongly supported, as he understood, by the Galle Sub-Committee, he did not proceed to his station, but went to Colombo. Having received a second communication on the 28th March, he proceeded to Belligam, but was unable to open the school on account of the prevalence of small-pox; and, with Mr. Gibson's consent, it was held in abeyance until after the Easter vacation; but even since that there had not been more than four or five boys in attendance. On the day of my visit there were eight present, of whom four had been newly admitted. There was every prospect, however, of the attendance being quickly brought up to its former standard; indeed the master had had the promise of several new boys.

Matura.

The number on the list in this school was 56, with an average attendance of 42. At least half of the boys had been admitted during the past year. Class I. 9; II. 15; III. 21; IV. 11.

In Class IV. eight boys were present, of whom two were learning the alphabet, three had gone over a few pages of Book I., and three had read the whole book. These last read very fairly, and spelt and translated single words correctly.

The boys of Class III. are not yet able to read the Bible, and do not understand sufficient Singhalese to profit by oral instruction. All, except one or two, read Book II.

correctly, and with tolerable intelligence. Their spelling was correct, and their answering quite as good as could be expected from such young children. Two worked examples correctly in reduction; three, with a slight mistake, in long division; four in multiplication; and four in addition. Their penmanship is evidently well attended to.

Classes I. and II. were examined together in Watts's Scripture History; the two eldest boys answered remarkably well in the whole book; the remainder of Class I. and the boys of Class II. were well acquainted with the history up to the time of Joshua. Class I. have read through the course of general history in Book IV., and appeared to have a very correct recollection of it; their reading was fluent and intelligent, and their answering on the passage satisfactory. All, except two, wrote correctly to dictation. Two in Class I. worked examples in compound proportion, and in the early rules of fractions, quite correctly. The remainder of Class I., and four boys in Class II., worked examples in reduction, three in long division, and four in multiplication. The two classes were united in geography, and passed a very creditable examination on the maps of Europe and Asia. Only one or two, who had been lately promoted, appeared to require more practice. Class II. read a passage from Book III. nicely indeed, and answered most satisfactorily. They wrote to dictation with tolerable correctness. The penmanship of both classes was extremely good.

I have much pleasure in again bearing testimony to the diligence evinced by both the masters in this school, as proved by the correct answering in the different branches. I hope that Mr. Ernst's efficient services will be rewarded by an increase in his salary, which he has often solicited.

Dondra.

This school had been removed into the centre of the village again, the former locality being too distant. There were 23 boys on the list, of whom 21 were present; and the returns for the first four months of this year showed an average of 15. I suspect, however, that the attendance is very irregular as to time, and that there are seldom more than six or eight boys present at a time. Class I. 6; II. 3; III. 6; IV. 8.

In Class I. one boy was able to read pretty well, but he has been several years in the school; the rest read without intelligence, and could not answer a single question satisfactorily. The same boy was able to work division, but the rest could only read figures. In Class II. one boy was present who attempted to read Balaprabodhana, but failed. In Class III. one boy read single words of four letters pretty well, but failed to read a passage containing shorter words; one read words of three letters, but failed to read short sentences of two letters; two read words of two letters pretty well, and two failed. The boys of Class IV. had learnt a few lines of the "Hodiya," but so completely by rote that they knew scarcely a single letter when pointed to irregularly.

The inhabitants of this village profess to care nothing about the education of their children; nor does the result of an experiment, now continued for several years, seem to justify any further expenditure in their behalf.

Akinimana.

There has been a change in the master of this school since my last visit, which has been attended so far by favourable results. The number of boys on the list is 31, with an average attendance of 19. As usual in our vernacular schools, by far the greater number are in the lower class. Classes I. 4; II. 4; III. 10; IV. 13. The boys in the first two classes have gone over the first 20 chapters of Genesis, can read Singhalese pretty well, and are working in different stages in the first three simple rules. The lower boys are mere beginners, but are in a more hopeful condition than the boys of a similar standing under the former master.

Hiccode.

There being no place in which to hold the school, it was broken up at the time of my visit. The boys had not assembled after the Easter holidays, the rest-house being unsafe. Mr. Anthonisz had made an attempt to collect money among the people for the erection of a small bungalow, but with very little success. He had been in bad health for some time, and had not visited his station since the Easter vacation.

Bentotte.

On the list 55.—Average attendance, ; present 43.

Class I. 8; II. 2; III. 10; IV. 8; V. 7; VI. 20.

Of Class I., five boys had not returned from their village since the Easter holidays, being deterred by the prevalence of dysentery in the village.

Classes I. and II. were examined together in the different subjects, and the result was upon the whole satisfactory. It was evident from the master's manner, when directed to examine the boys, that he had paid a good deal of attention to the subject, and presented to the minds of the boys a considerable amount of information; but he was not by any means sufficiently careful in ascertaining that they had taken it in: he rested satisfied with explaining a difficult word or passage, without examining by further questions whether his explanation had been understood. In Scripture, English history, English

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reading, and arithmetic these two classes acquitted themselves very creditably. I regretted, however, to find that an equal amount of attention had not been paid to the remaining classes, which were deficient in almost every branch, being left, I fear, too much to the assistant. I directed the master's attention to these defects, and hope to find an improved state of affairs at my next visit. I must however remark, that a mixed school scarcely appears necessary at this station. There is a vernacular one connected with the Church Missionary Society, very well attended, which is, or could easily be made, quite equal to the wants of the people. If the mixed school were moved to Ballipitymodera, it would, I think, be attended with beneficial results.

SIR, Colombo, August 20th, 1855.

In enclosing my report of the schools in the Colombo district, I have much pleasure in being able to state that I have found them, upon the whole, much better than when I last visited them. There has been, I hope, a little more system observed in the method of imparting instruction, which has been, to a certain extent, accompanied with the results which might naturally be expected to arise. Having, in addition to the half-yearly examination, visited most of them once or twice on ordinary working days, I have had a very good opportunity of observing both their improvement and their defects. And although I have had reason to be pleased with the former, I am sorry to say that too many of the latter still remain. They are to be found chiefly in the reading lessons and arithmetic; and I should have been glad if the remarks I made on these subjects last year had been published in the Appendix to the Report. We might then, I think, have looked for a greater amount of improvement, as the attention of the masters would be directed to the points especially deserving attention, with somewhat more of authority than when merely spoken to on the occasion of my visit. Still better perhaps would it be if the passages I now refer to were embodied in the report itself, with a few remarks, indicative of the wish of the Commission that greater pains should be taken in the two branches of study above referred to. In arithmetic sufficient care is not taken in explaining the principles of the rules, and in ascertaining that the boys thoroughly understand them; and it appears to me that the boys are allowed to assist each other a great deal, for I almost invariably find them attempting to do so when I examine them, and when it is prevented not more than one half of the number succeed in working the examples correctly. Too much stress cannot be laid upon this point, for in almost all our schools arithmetic must occupy the position which geometry and logic occupy in higher schools;—it must be the instrument by which they are taught to think with accuracy; and unless it is carefully attended to it is plain that a very important part of their education is neglected. Another point in reference to this branch of study, (and indeed in reference to all their studies) to which sufficient attention is not paid is the frequent revision of the portions previously taught. Many of the boys in this country evince great facility in acquiring knowledge, but the misfortune is that they seldom retain it, so that boys who have advanced as far as fractions without revision will often fail in some of the earlier rules, for example, in compound division. Hence arises the desirableness of frequent revision. I do not myself think that a day in each week devoted to the revision of the studies of the previous week, and a week in each month for the revision of the studies of the previous three weeks, would be at all unprofitably spent. A much less amount of work apparently would be done, but inasmuch as it would be done more effectively more real good would be effected. The great deficiency with respect to the reading lessons is the want of explanation and dissection, accompanied by animated questioning, with the view of ascertaining whether the boys really do understand what they read. So far as I can judge from my examinations, and the few opportunities I have of hearing the masters conduct a class, they are for the most part satisfied with the following process:—A whole lesson, of perhaps two or three pages, is read, without any interruption but what may arise from the correction of verbal mistakes, and but little pains being taken to see that the attention of the whole class is directed to the passage which is being read; the books are then closed, some of the more difficult words are spelt, a few questions are put, which generally contain the answer in themselves, a slight explanation of one or two of the more difficult sentences is given, and the class is dismissed. It is plain that but little benefit has accrued to any one from such an exercise as that; and any suggestions that I may offer, though readily listened to at the time, are, I fear, very soon forgotten. That a few sentences at a time are sufficient,—that a minute examination of almost every distinct clause, with the books open, is necessary,—that explanations, of the simplest kind must be first given to the boys, and afterwards elicited from them, and that then a few questions on the general subject, with the books shut, may follow, if the time permits,—are points to which I cannot prevail upon the masters to direct their attention. It is the plan I always adopt in examining their classes, in the hope that an example of what I consider the best mode of conducting a reading lesson may produce a more lasting impression than a mere statement would; but in the majority of cases, I am sorry to say, whatever change may be made for a time, the old system is soon resumed, and at the next examination a similar result is seen. A desire to get through a considerable amount of work combines with the want of previous training to prevent them from changing the plans to which they have so long been accustomed. I wish I could add that in no case is the blame to be attributed to an unwillingness to undergo the additional

exertion required, or to the absence of a real interest in the work in which they are engaged.

But in justice to many of our efficient masters I am bound to add, that the instruments with which they are required to work are such that it is scarcely fair to expect more satisfactory results. The set of reading books at present in use is both defective and unsuitable to the country. There is an interval between the second and third books so great that it is simply absurd to take a boy from one to the other, while the third book itself is of such a nature that it is difficult to select even a few lessons suitable for the boys of the age and standing for which it is intended; in fact, the fourth book is in reality easier than the third. I confess I am quite at a loss to imagine how any educational society in England could give their sanction to so ill-assorted a collection of books. The reading books of the Irish Board and Christian Knowledge Society are much better adapted to our schools, and if both were used would afford both a nice gradation and a sufficient variety; in addition to which they have the advantage of being cheaper than the Daily Lesson Books, which are not worth the prices set upon them. While on this subject, I would beg to direct the attention of the commission to a grammar and composition book, by Allen and Cornwall, which I consider it very desirable to introduce into our schools. The grammar for beginners is as perfect a book of its kind as I have ever met with, and the composition book gives a progression of exercises on a good system, far more likely to assist the boys in writing correct English than the plan of correcting false syntax, and attempting set themes without any material to work upon, which appears to be all that the masters have any idea of doing at present. These books may be purchased at present at the "Examiner" office.

Of the vernacular schools in this district I am glad to be able to say, that I think they are producing beneficial results. Out of the town they are not always so well attended as one could wish, but generally speaking the work is well done. But it is saddening to think that while the boys in the different villages are being educated, nothing is done for the girls. The want of schoolmistresses is one which does not appear very likely to be supplied for some time to come. It has occurred to me, therefore, that the experiment might be tried of allowing the vernacular masters to teach girls, either admitting them to the lessons at the same time with the boys, or devoting four hours in the morning to boys, and two in the afternoon to girls. It would not be desirable, perhaps, to require it in all the schools at first; but the experiment might be tried where we have good masters, and the population is such as to render it probable that a sufficient number of girls would attend, as, for instance, at Peyliyagodde and Matacooly. In this way I think something might be done to correct the anomalous state of things which the education of the males only is calculated to produce.

To meet the gradual falling off in the attendance at our country schools, I have long felt that some change in our plans is necessary, and for many months past I have been considering the desirableness of making our schools much more temporary in their continuance in the same locality than they are at present. There can be but little doubt that when a master is established in a village, as it were for a permanence, he is apt to lose somewhat of the interest he may at first have taken in collecting boys about him; and he views the reduction in his numbers with but little concern, his salary being in no way dependent upon the number of his pupils. I have thought, therefore, that it would be desirable to let the master and the villagers understand that the former is sent for a limited period only, say two years; and that it is hoped that by that time some of his pupils will have acquired a sufficient amount of instruction to enable them to conduct the school, towards which, however, the government would still continue a small grant; or, if it was found that the school continued to be well attended, the master might be retained in the village, a fee being required from the pupils. In this way I thought that by a careful selection of localities a whole corle might in a few years be gone through by an efficient master, who might eventually be employed as an inspector of the different schools he had been instrumental in establishing. I was not at all aware that this principle had been suggested or acted upon by any one else, until a short time ago, when on reading an extract from a journal of one of the oldest and most experienced missionaries, I was glad to find him recommending the adoption of a similar plan, and I have since learnt that in the Kandyan mission it has been carried out. I annex the extract to which I refer, and I would beg the serious consideration of the Commission to the subject.

Extract from the Journal of the Rev. W. OAKLEY.

"The present state of affairs raises a very important question, as to the course which it may be our duty to pursue with reference to the opening and carrying on of schools in this part of the mission.

"Several schools have been opened by us in Kandyan villages, and have gone on pretty well for two or three years. The attendance has been regular, and the improvement satisfactory, but just at the time when the older boys were beginning to understand our instructions and our addresses, they have left us. This has so frequently occurred that our educational department at this station (Kandy) has been very discouraging. Scarcely any of the boys who have been educated in our schools have afterwards joined themselves to our congregations.

CEYLON.

"The work of education in day schools at this station must, I think, be viewed as a failure, so far as regards the training up of young persons in sound Christian principles; at least we see not that such has been the result. Several hundred young persons have in our schools obtained a correct knowledge of the way of salvation, and a considerable acquaintance with religious truth; but the number of those who have afterwards manifested a sincere regard for these things, and have lived like true Christians, has been very small.

"As our object in establishing schools among the heathen is not merely to give them what is usually termed a 'secular education,' but especially to communicate to them a knowledge of Divine truth,—to make them thoroughly acquainted with the Gospel of Jesus Christ,—I feel much disposed to recommend for adoption, at least for a time, and as an experiment, the following plan. It may prevent much of that disappointment and discouragement which we now so often meet with, and may perhaps be viewed as an itinerating school mission, and as such deserve a fair trial.

"The plan which I would suggest is the following:—Wherever the inhabitants of a large Kandyan village or a cluster of villages are desirous of having a school established among them, and are willing to provide (as at present) a schoolroom, free of expense to the society, a school should be opened, (if the funds of the society will admit,) with the distinct announcement that it will be continued only for the space of two years; that during that time the education, both in the English and Singhalese languages, will be gratis; but that the special object aimed at will be to communicate to the scholars, and to their parents, so far as they may be willing to attend, a correct knowledge of the Christian religion. And it should be distinctly announced, at the commencement, that the master will be withdrawn unless the scholars attend pretty regularly.

"If, as in our former and present schools, the scholars are induced to attend regularly for about two years, many of them may obtain a considerable acquaintance with the chief truths of the Gospel, and may, by the blessing of God, not only themselves derive benefit from that knowledge, but be made the means of communicating it to their parents and others. At the expiration of the two years (unless some special reasons render a different course desirable) the school, or rather the master, would be removed to another village, some few miles distant.

"In this way the knowledge of the Christian religion would be communicated to a much larger number of young persons than can possibly be done under the present system, and without any additional expense to the society; for the chief advantage of the plan now proposed would be, that it would afford the means of communicating a knowledge of the Christian religion to the young persons, and perhaps also to their parents, in many districts, instead of being limited, as at present, to only a very few districts. Instead of having a school (as at present) for twenty years in the same village, ten schools might be established in as many several districts, and at the same expense. The children too, who have received a certain amount of instruction, might be ready to make a sacrifice to obtain a better education, and this might eventually lead to the establishment of schools in which the children would be willing to pay for their education.

"If the above plan, or a plan somewhat similar, should be attempted, the schoolmaster might follow the itinerant missionary throughout the Kandyan country, and thus the Gospel might be proclaimed to both old and young; the adults forming the congregaitons of the Christian missionary; the children and young persons forming the congregations of the Christian schoolmaster."

I need scarcely add, that if such a plan is decided upon, no efforts shall be wanting on my part to secure, if possible, a successful result.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
J. Brooke H. Bailey,
Inspector of Schools.

J. Fraser, Esq., Sec. Sch. Commission.

DISTRICT OF COLOMBO.—ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

St. Thomas's School.

There has been a considerable number of boys in attendance at this school during the last half year, the average having scarcely ever been below 60; but they are chiefly in the lower classes, and very young. Class I. only contains 8 boys, Class II. 29, and Class III. 43. The necessary consequence of this is a lower standard of advancement upon the whole than I have before met with in this school. Domestic trials of a very peculiar nature, followed by frequent attacks of indisposition, have withdrawn the head master very much from his duties, or at least prevented him from discharging them with his usual zeal and ability; and the younger boys have thus been left too much under the care of the second assistant, whose capabilities are very moderate indeed.

In Classes I. and II. the answering in a considerable portion of Watts's Scripture History, though not quite so ready as I could have wished, was upon the whole satisfactory; a little more explanation and less repetition by mere rote is desirable in Class II. I was disappointed with the result in arithmetic in both these classes. The upper boys profess to have gone nearly through the book, but were very deficient in the most

important rules; while the working of examples in proportion in Class II. showed that the boys did not understand the principles of the operations. The difficulty I have so often adverted to in reports of this school, of inducing boys to buy the reading books, operates most prejudicially on their progress in English; only two or three in Class I. read with intelligence, and the answering, as might be expected, from the want of books, was anything but satisfactory. I spoke very strongly to some boys, who I felt persuaded had no excuse but heedlessness, and directed Mr. Blake not to allow four of them to attend school again until they had purchased reading books. A decided failure in their English exercises was a result which naturally followed from the little interest taken in this branch of their studies, as shown by the circumstance above alluded to. In geography I was glad to find a considerable improvement; more attention had evidently been paid to the maps, and the particulars in the text book were more correctly remembered. Their chronology had evidently been learnt too much by rote to admit of their answering questions selected at random from different parts of the book.

In Class II. the reading of a few in Book III. was pretty fair; of the rest, several read without intelligence, and some were scarcely able to pronounce the words. The answering was very far from good; there was an evident want of the dissection of sentences, and explanation of their meaning. In geography the answering on the maps of the world and Europe was very general and good; far better than that of Class I. The writing from dictation was tolerably correct, and their penmanship very creditable.

Class III. is broken up into several divisions, in various stages of progress; but for the reasons above mentioned their advancement had not been so satisfactory as it might have been.

It is perhaps premature, in view of the proposals already sanctioned by the Commission for the reduction of the number of schools in Colombo, to make any suggestion; but it appears to me that the fusion of this and the Pettah School, locating them in the building formerly used for the Central School (the lease of which, I believe, has not nearly expired), would be attended with considerable advantage. With St. Thomas's Collegiate School so near, the upper classes in this school are not likely in future to be very large; whereas in the Pettah School there is scarcely a sufficient number of younger boys to engage the whole attention of an assistant. Difficulties may possibly arise in the adjustment of the position of the head master; but an arrangement might perhaps be made similar to the one adopted when Dr. Kessen was appointed joint head master with myself in the Academy. I cannot, however, conceal from the Commission, that Mr. Blake's capabilities of successfully conducting a large school are, from the state of his health, very materially diminished; and I have no doubt that if employment of a less laborious nature could be provided for him he would gladly accept it.

Colombo Boys' School.

The number on the list in this school is 60, and generally speaking they are all in attendance. In Class I. there are 9 boys, in Class II. 22, and in Class III. 29. Classes I. and II. are for the most part taught together by the head master; Class III. being left to the assistant.

Classes I. and II. In Watts's Scripture History, embracing the history of the Israelites in the wilderness and the life of John the Baptist, the answering was very general, and extremely correct, affording a pleasing proof of the care with which the minute particulars of the different events had been entered into. In arithmetic, the examples, extending from simple multiplication to practice, were correctly worked by the majority of the boys in each division, and the answers to my questions on the principles of the operations were such as to show that they had been carefully explained. The reading of Class I. in Book IV. was very pleasing, being correct and intelligent, and their answering, both on the construction of the sentences and the previous portions of the history, extremely satisfactory. The writing from dictation was unusually correct; but the attempts at composition were rather a failure. The answering in geography, the subject being England and Wales, was not so satisfactory as I could have wished in Class I.; but Class II. answered very creditably indeed on the map of Europe. In the reading and answering of Class II. in Book III. there was a marked improvement; their writing from dictation was tolerably correct, but their answering in grammar was not very good.

Of Class III. eight or ten boys were able to read Book II. with tolerable fluency; but the rest hesitated considerably, and appeared to have but little notion of the meaning of what they read. They worked examples in addition, subtraction, and multiplication, in three equal divisions, the majority being correct.

I was very much pleased with the decided improvement in this school; the average attendance is greater in proportion to the number on the list than in any other school in Colombo; and great pains have evidently been taken by Mr. Spaar in endeavouring to make his pupils understand the meaning of what they read and learn.

Grand Pass School.

On the list, 83. Average attendance, 70. Class I. 16; II. 26; III. 14; IV. 27.

Class I. The examination in Scripture embraced the history of the kings of Judah, and that of Daniel, Jonah, and Esther, together with the Acts of the Apostles; the

answering was satisfactory upon the whole, though somewhat defective in the first-mentioned portion. In arithmetic, seven boys attempted examples in practice, three in reduction, and three in the compound rules; but the majority in each division failed to work them correctly, even after two or three trials. They read from Book IV. with great fluency and intelligence; and, with the exception of one or two grown-up Singhalese boys, who appeared remarkably dull of comprehension, they answered very satisfactorily. They wrote correctly from dictation, and the exercises in grammar were very creditable.

In geography the answering both from the text book and on the maps was very satisfactory; great pains are evidently taken with this branch, and much additional information supplied by the master, which the boys are required to enter in note books. They had gone over a few paragraphs explanatory of matter and motion, but they scarcely seemed to have laid hold of any of them with anything like a correct grasp.

In Class II. the reading from Book III. was very fair, and the answering, upon the whole, as good as, from the nature of the book, could be expected; the spelling and answering on the elements of grammar were tolerably correct. In arithmetic, nine boys worked examples in compound addition correctly, and also in simple multiplication, but they failed completely in simple division; the whole of the second division worked examples in simple addition without a mistake. Their knowledge of the principal features of the map of Europe was very creditable.

Class III. had been instructed orally in the life of John the Baptist, and some of the principal events of our Saviour's history; but their knowledge of English is so slight that I failed to elicit any satisfactory replies. They read Book II., but without much intelligence, and worked examples in simple addition and subtraction pretty correctly.

The boys of Class IV. read from different portions of Books I. and II., and some of them appeared to be progressing very nicely.

Upon the whole, I was not so well satisfied with this school as usual; but many of the boys in the upper classes, having been but lately promoted, were naturally not quite au fait in some of the lessons that had been learnt in the early part of the half year.

Slave Island School.

On the list, 46. Average attendance, 41. Class I. 13; II. 15; III. 18.

More than one third of the boys who were at school in January had left during the half year, some having enlisted, and others being employed in various ways.

Classes I. and II. were examined in Watts's chapter on prophecies and the Gospel history, and the answering was much more satisfactory than I have known it for some time. The reading of Class I. in Book IV. was correct and intelligent, and the answering on several portions of English history very satisfactory. Great improvement was perceptible also in their answering in geography, to which considerable attention had evidently been paid. Examples in proportion and interest were worked correctly by more than half the class, and the exercises in English grammar were tolerably satisfactory.

In Class II. examples in the compound rules were worked correctly by all the boys. They read and answered very fairly in Book III., and wrote from dictation with tolerable correctness.

The boys of Class III. receive oral instruction in Scripture; but they scarcely know sufficient English to enable them to answer questions put by a stranger. They read pretty well in Book II., and worked examples in simple addition correctly.

I was pleased to find that there was so much improvement perceptible in this school, and I venture to hope that it will continue. Mr. Perera can do his work well, if he pleases; and considering that he is now drawing the maximum salary allowed to masters of elementary schools, with less than half the number of scholars for whom it is supposed to be given, it would appear desirable to adopt some plan by which the number of his scholars may be increased.

MIXED SCHOOLS.

Marandahn.

On list, 61. Average attendance, 50. Class I. 16; II. 21; III. 24.

The boys of Class I. passed a very creditable examination on the chapters in Watts relating to holy persons, places, and things, and the miracles and example of Christ. Three worked examples in long division, three in compound multiplication, and eight in compound division, with a quickness and accuracy which I have not before met with in this school. A portion of them read a passage from Book IV. with tolerable fluency and intelligence, and answered my questions satisfactorily; the rest read from Book III., and I was very much pleased with the decided improvement both in their manner of reading and in the facility and correctness with which they answered my questions. Their acquaintance with the map of Europe was very satisfactory; all except two answered quite correctly.

Instruction on several important Scriptural events had been imparted to Class II. orally, and with satisfactory results. Examples in the simple rules were worked correctly by different divisions; and the reading in different parts of Book II. was as good as could well be expected from such young children.

The boys of Class III., though mere beginners, were evidently receiving a due share of attention, and making satisfactory progress.

The improvement in this school is very marked, and it gives me great pleasure to be able to report so favourably of it.

Colpetty.

On list, 45. Average attendance, 39. Class I. 9; II. 13; III. 14; IV. 9.

Class I. was examined in the history of the kings of Judah. Having only gone over it once, without committing it to memory, their answering was not very satisfactory. Their reading from Book IV. was correct and intelligent, and their answering satisfactory. Examples in compound proportion were worked correctly by six boys, and by two boys in compound multiplication. The answering on the map of the world was very creditable.

The boys of Class II. read very fairly indeed, and translated single words correctly. Seven of them worked examples in simple division correctly. The writing of these two classes is evidently very carefully attended to.

In Classes III. and IV. the boys are a good deal subdivided, and were all making very satisfactory progress.

I always find Mr. Perera's work carefully attended to, and he is one of the few masters who take pains to carry on their own improvement.

Wellicadde and Hulfsdorph Gaols.

The instruction is now confined chiefly to Scriptural knowledge, Sunday being the only day allowed for school; and on several different occasions when I have visited the gaols on that day I have been very much pleased to find so many of the prisoners taking a great interest in their studies. Several of them can read and write very well indeed, and have acquired a very considerable knowledge of Scripture truths. They seem, many of them at least, to take every opportunity of reading and working arithmetic during the week; and they are very anxious to revert to the former plan of having an hour's instruction every day. How far this may be practicable I cannot of course judge; but it seems to be a very desirable arrangement, and that for reasons too obvious to require to be stated.

VERNACULAR SCHOOLS.

Dehiwelle.

The work of this school has been considerably interrupted during the last three months, by the breaking down of the old building, and the erection of a larger one in its place. There is still the same want of punctuality in the attendance of the boys that I have remarked on in former reports. The school professes to open at twelve o'clock, to suit the convenience of the boys, who are engaged in fishing during the early part of the day; but instead of coming at twelve the boys of the different classes come dropping in at different intervals between twelve and three; and I very much suspect that it frequently happens that little, if any, work is done before the latter hour, the excuse being, that very few boys are present in each class. The masters are brothers, and not likely to improve each other. I have tried my utmost to correct the want of system so evident in this school, but without success; and I think it highly desirable, for the benefit of this populous village, that some more energetic master should be placed at the head of this school as soon as practicable. The master of the Katane School is one of the best we have, and his abilities are at present comparatively wasted in the small school to which his attention is confined. The removal of the Dehiwelle master from his present locality is desirable also on the ground of the time which he devotes to his medical practice, which I suspect is too lucrative to be readily given up.

Watelle.

I was sorry to find, on visiting this school, that the number, which was never very great, had decreased, there being 24 names on the list, but not a greater average attendance than 12 or 13. I do not attribute this decrease to any want of attention on the part of the master, for the answers to my inquiries from several persons as to the regularity of his attendance were quite satisfactory; and I have always found his work quite as well done as in the other schools, and himself very careful in carrying out any instructions I have from time to time given him, with a view of improving his mode of instruction. I am rather inclined to think that the village itself is scarcely large enough to supply more children; and most of the men being engaged in cart-driving on the Kandy road, the children are frequently required to help the mothers at home, or as soon as they are old enough join their fathers in their occupation. Hence, on one occasion, when I visited the school, the whole of the second class was absent, and on another, only two boys, being one third of the number, were present in the first. These circumstances of course operate very prejudicially upon the school. I was glad to find, however, that the work that had been got through during the half year was not below the average in quantity, and had been very carefully attended to. In Scripture history, geography, history of Ceylon, and arithmetic, the upper boys answered very satisfactorily indeed;

and the lower boys were making creditable progress in reading and arithmetic. The most discouraging feature is the early removal of the children from the school, so that one scarcely ever sees anything like a progressive advance. The same portions of different subjects are presented for examination year after year, the only difference being in the persons of the boys. It is not impossible that a more suitable locality might be selected along that road, for which purpose I would suggest a communication with Mr. Valentine De Sarum, the modliar of the corle.

Matacooly.

There has been a considerable decrease in the attendance at this school during the last six months, the children having been more engaged than usual in fishing; nor has the proportion between the number on the list and the number in attendance been so good as in former years; the reason assigned for which is, a considerable amount of sickness in the neighbourhood. But I have every reason to be as much satisfied as usual with the progress which the boys have made. The master is a very pains-taking teacher, and does more, I think, towards the general improvement of his boys, than any one we have. He is constantly borrowing books likely to be useful to himself; and by the help of pictures, maps, large tables, and any other means that suggests itself to him, he endeavours to excite and keep up among his boys an interest in their several lessons. His elder boys are making very satisfactory progress in Scripture history, and their knowledge of the history and geography of their own country is extremely creditable. The correctness with which they work their arithmetic is very pleasing; indeed their whole appearance and deportment give one the idea of boys who are happy in their work, and anything but deficient in intelligence. The reading and answering of the next two classes, both in Scripture and their reading books, were highly satisfactory; and I am still able to point to the lowest class in this school as the one in which the children are taught to read on the most intelligent plan, and surmount the difficulties of the alphabet more quickly than in any other of our vernacular schools.

Milagraya.

In the number attending this school I am happy to be able to report a slight increase. There are 56 on the list, with an average attendance of 40. The boys are more subdivided into classes than there is any occasion for; and I directed the master to unite them, for there is in reality very little difference between the boys, except in arithmetic, for which there is no necessity whatever to subdivide them. The elder boys, to the number of a dozen, are well acquainted with the New Testament history, and with that of the Old Testament, as far as Judges. They have gone through the History of Ceylon, and are now revising it. Their recollection of its most prominent points is very creditable, nor is their knowledge of the geography of the island less satisfactory. A few can work examples in simple and compound proportion, and the rest are in the compound rules. The boys in the middle classes are able to read Balaprabodhana with fluency and intelligence, and answered very satisfactorily; most of them can work examples in the simple rules, and all write very nicely indeed. The lower boys are in different parts of the First Reading Book, some having advanced very little beyond the alphabet. The progress of all is most satisfactory.

In connection with this school, I had again the pleasure of visiting the industrial school; but as Mr. Thurstan is about to publish a report of its progress I will only state that it is advancing steadily in every branch, and promises to be a most useful institution, one of the beneficial results, by no means the least important, being the establishment of similar institutions in Kandy and Newera Ellia, the latter of which is conducted by a young man brought up in the Colpetty School.

Kohilawatte.

The number in attendance at this school continues very steady, but the boys at present there are young, and have not advanced so far as some of their predecessors. They are, however, making satisfactory progress, and bid fair to acquire a very fair amount of instruction. Instead of the majority of the boys being in the lowest class, as is the case in most of the schools, the greatest number are in the two first classes. The New Testament history is taught from the Harmony of the Gospels, and the elder boys have gone over a considerable portion of it, of which they retain a very fair recollection. They have also read several chapters of the History of Ceylon, in which they evidently take considerable interest; but in arithmetic they are not so far advanced as their progress in other studies led me to expect, none having gone beyond simple multiplication.

The boys of Class II. read Balaprabodhana II. with fluency and intelligence, and work examples in simple addition. Those of Class III. are in different parts of the spelling book, and those of Class IV. are still in the alphabet.

I have much pleasure in being able to bear testimony to the continued attention of the master of this school. He takes great pains to improve himself, and gladly adopts suggestions made for the improvement of his mode of teaching, and the beneficial results are seen in the quickness and intelligence no less than in the steady progress of his boys.

ATIDIYA.

The numbers in attendance at this school continues much the same as in former years. On the list there are 33, and the average attendance is from 20 to 24. The school appears to be very liable to be interrupted by circumstances occurring in the village; for I scarcely remember having ever visited it without finding a paucity of numbers, arising from a marriage or funeral, or some other excitement in the village. In this school also the majority of the boys are in the upper classes, and are making very satisfactory progress. Their acquaintance with the Gospel history is very correct; they read the History of Ceylon with intelligence and fluency; they work examples in arithmetic, varying from simple to compound subtraction; and are tolerably well acquainted with the Old Testament history, down to the giving of the law. The lower boys are not progressing so satisfactorily as I would wish. I warned the master against neglecting them, as being fewer in number than the two upper classes, and told him I should expect to find a considerable improvement when I next visited his school. I have every reason to believe the master to be regular and attentive in the discharge of his duties, but naturally tempted to devote himself to the more advanced boys, some of whom are exceedingly intelligent, to the neglect of those, fewer in number and less advanced, who have an equal right to his attention.

PALIYAGODDE.

I find some difficulty in persuading myself that the change in the locality of this school was an advantageous one; at least in respect of numbers the present school has all along been inferior to the former one. It is true, however, that a considerable degree of interest is felt by the inhabitants of this part in the education of their children; a pleasing proof of which is found in the regular attendance of the children, and the erection of a very substantial school bungalow. The majority of the children are young, but sprightly and intelligent; and they are making very satisfactory progress in the usual subjects studied in the vernacular schools.

It is quite pleasing to see the interest many of them take in the history of their own country. None of our reading books are so much liked as the History of Ceylon; and I have often felt extremely glad that the Commission were so fortunate as to meet with a book so evidently calculated to attract even the youngest of the children, who before they can read it themselves listen with considerable attention when it is read by their seniors. The assistant master has been prevented from attending to his duties for several weeks by an attack of ophthalmia. I have made it my business to ascertain by personal observation the state of his health, and am very sorry to have to report that there appears every probability of his being laid aside for a considerable time longer.

CALANY.

This is, I think, one of the most stationary of our schools, both in respect of numbers and of progress. The master, though diligent and regular in the discharge of his duties, so far as I can judge from observation and inquiry, is not by any means one of our brightest specimens. He seems to have considerable difficulty in keeping up any improvement in his system of teaching; but I generally find that little plans that I have suggested and explained to him, though adopted for a time, have ere long been relinquished, and he has fallen back into his own original method. He labours under a considerable disadvantage in the irregularity of the attendance, which is caused chiefly by the frequent occurrence of festivals, of greater or less importance, in the neighbouring Roman Catholic chapels. But yet the progress made by his boys, though slow, is tolerably steady. Some of them are extremely quick in working arithmetic; in others I observed a greater degree of aptness in geography than is generally found in our schools; and in all the subjects the general answering was very fair. The only point is, that the boys have not advanced so far in the different subjects, particularly in Scripture, as boys of the same standing in other schools. This arises partly from habit, which some of our masters have, of commencing the Testament anew at the beginning of each year, if not of each half year. I have prevented this in some measure, by setting out a certain portion of work to be done in each subject during the half year; but this is one of the schools in which the master almost invariably finds some excuse for deviating from the plan I had sketched out. The excuse is very seldom a really good one; a very common one, for instance, is, that two or three boys had come newly into the class, and that for their sakes it was necessary to begin again; but I hope to be able in time to bring the masters into more systematic methods, and so secure the progressive advancement of the schools.

WELLEWATTE.—FEMALE.

I feel assured that when I report that at four different visits during the space of two months I have never found more than six or eight children present, only two of whom could read at all, the rest being so young as to give one the idea that they were only sent to school to be kept quiet, I shall have said enough to justify me in again recommending the discontinuance of this school. I cannot perceive that it is of the slightest benefit to to any one, except the fortunate recipient of the salary, whom I have never found employed

in teaching, but always busily engaged in sewing something for herself, any who were equal to it being occupied in the same way, and the rest sitting idly by, listening to the friendly conversation carried on between the mistress and the one or two elder girls who happened to be present, and who probably were her own relations. At my two last visits the mistress was absent, having been lately confined, but her locum tenens did not appear to be much, if at all, superior to herself.

FEMALE SCHOOLS.

Female Seminary.

It is so difficult to induce the upper girls in our female schools to answer audibly, that it is by no means an easy matter to form a correct opinion as to the real state of the school, for even when they are questioned by their teacher, the presence of a comparative stranger produces a degree of shyness which almost prevents him from being able to judge of the amount of knowledge possessed by the girls. I think, however, that I may venture to assert that I was not altogether unsuccessful in eliciting answers which gave me a tolerably correct idea of the progress that had been made, which was very satisfactory. The first 25 girls have been for some time under Mrs. Elliott's immediate superintendence, and have derived considerable advantage from it. Their knowledge of English has improved very much; their reading was fluent and intelligent, and the answering on a considerable portion of English history by the upper half of the class, and on a chapter in natural history by the rest, was extremely creditable. In geography, too, I could perceive a considerable improvement; there was a greater degree of quickness in pointing out places on the map, and the answering on the text book was more general than I have hitherto found it. But there did not appear to have been a fair proportion of Scriptural instruction imparted, and in arithmetic there was scarcely any improvement perceptible.

I regret not to be able to report very favourably of the progress made by the second class, under Mrs. Lindsay's care; but it is accounted for in a great measure by her not infrequent absences caused by ill-health, and the difficulty, where there are no regular monitors, of providing a suitable substitute. I suppose it is probable that this cause will continue to operate with at least equal if not increased disadvantage; and it seems therefore desirable to consider what remedy can be applied.

The lowest class, consisting of 23 children, is very much subdivided, and occupies the whole attention of the second assistant, with whose conduct in the discharge of her duties Mrs. Elliott expressed herself as being satisfied. The principal events of the Bible history are taught orally, and several of them can answer very satisfactorily. The upper half of the class is reading Book II., and the rest are in different stages of progress in Book I.

I fear the school will suffer considerably from the continued absence of any one at its head, and that, under whomsoever it may be placed, it will be a long time before it recovers itself. This circumstance is very much to be regretted, particularly as the elder girls will be the chief sufferers, and that at a time when continued attention, both on the teacher's part and their own, is especially needed.

Colombo Girls' School.

During the last half year the girls of this school have had the gratification of hailing the return of their former esteemed teacher, Mrs. Palm,—not however, it is painful to add, with that degree of restoration to health which it was hoped a sojourn in a colder climate would effect. It is gratifying, however, to know that she has been able to enter upon her duties with her usual zeal, and with all the advantages which a visit to the best schools in England of a similar character is calculated to produce. Nor was Mrs. Palm unmindful of her youthful charge while absent from home, as the addition of a useful library and other appliances for smoothing the difficulties she had previously had to encounter abundantly testify. There has been an increase in the numbers during the last three months, and I sincerely hope that it will be long before Mrs. Palm again finds her duties too fatiguing for her health; for I have always felt the great advantage the girls of this school enjoy in two respects; first, they are all brought to a considerable extent under Mrs. Palm's immediate instruction and influence; and, secondly, that the moral influences brought to bear upon their tender minds are such as are not to be met with in any other of our schools. It has always appeared to me that the formation of the children's characters on sound religious principles has been Mrs. Palm's chief aim, while their intellectual advancement has not by any means been neglected. Owing to the short period that has elapsed since Mrs. Palm's return, I have not held any regular examination of the school; but I hope to do so, if all be well, before the close of the year.

Colpetty.

Of the 30 girls on the list in this school, only three are in the First Class, 11 being in Class II., and 16 in Class III. The upper girls have made considerable progress in English, and can now read with fluency and intelligence any passage of not more than ordinary difficulty. They work examples in simple division correctly and quickly; and

their knowledge of the New Testament history is very creditable; in geography too, their answering on the map of the world was very satisfactory. The girls of Class II. read "Peep of Day," in Singhalese, very well indeed, and their quickness in answering was most pleasing; they were tolerably correct in working examples in subtraction. The children in Class III. are very young, and scarcely any of them are able to read words of more than two or three letters. The school has evidently not entirely lost the benefit it derived from the efforts of the ladies who kindly visited it last year; but it is a matter of regret that none have been found to fill their places.

Borella.

This school, I am happy to say, still continues to enjoy the benefit of frequent visits from ladies in the neighbourhood, and keeps up its improved position. The average number in attendance is upwards of 30, there being 42 on the list. The elder girls have a very fair knowledge of the Old Testament history, down to the death of Moses, and of the principal events recorded in the New Testament. They read Mr. Murdoch's Book IV. very nicely indeed, but there is evidently a defect in the ordinary mode of questioning them, which made it difficult to elicit anything like correct answers. Examples in all the simple rules were worked correctly and quickly. The same result, arising from the want of proper questioning, was found in Class II., the girls of which can read very fairly. The younger children were all making satisfactory progress in the earlier stages. I am glad to be able to report that the school is regularly visited and examined by the Rev. Superintendent, as well as by the ladies who kindly interest themselves in it, and upon the whole it may be regarded as in a very satisfactory condition.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

Kandy Industrial School.

The beneficial results that attended Mr. Thurstan's exertions in the establishment of an industrial school at Colombo induced the colonial chaplain of Kandy to make a similar attempt in that town. His efforts were seconded by the Government agent and most of the other residents. Funds were collected, a part of Mr. Wise's residence, kindly given up by him for the purpose, was prepared for the reception of 24 youths; a piece of land in the immediate neighbourhood was granted by Government for industrial purposes, and in November 1854 the institution was opened under Mr. Wise's superintendence. Early in the present year application was made to the Commission for aid, and a salary of £5 per mensem for the master was granted. The difficulties naturally incident to the early stages of such an institution for some time retarded its progress; but these were at length overcome by the patience and perseverance of its promoters, and it may now be considered as established on a firm basis. At the time of my visit there were 14 boys in the school, but before I left the province the full number had been admitted, most of them young intelligent lads, from whose reception into such an institution at so early an age the most beneficial results may be anticipated.

The mornings and evenings are devoted to out-door employment; the forenoon to lessons; and the afternoon to industrial occupations, of which tailoring, shoemaking, and basket-making are those in which they are engaged.

Of those who were in the school at the time of my visit, five were in Class I., and passed a most satisfactory examination in Scripture history, reading, grammar, arithmetic, and geography. They were thoroughly acquainted with the history contained in the book of Genesis, and St. Matthew's Gospel. Their reading was intelligent, their answering very satisfactory, and their parsing more than usually correct. Two worked examples in compound division and reduction, and three in simple multiplication and division. Their answering from the text-book in geography was very creditable, but the want of a map was a considerable disadvantage to them.

The other boys had not advanced very far in their studies; but the different classes were making satisfactory progress.

All write on slates, and take their turn in the respective industrial departments.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

Kandy Elementary School.

On examining this school I was glad to find a marked improvement, particularly in the mathematical department. The remarks I made last year had evidently been attended to, and the results were satisfactory, so far as they went; but there is still room for further attention in reference to the same points which were then animadverted upon.

There were 82 names on the list, the average attendance being 70. The division into classes was as follows: Class I. 19; II. 27; III. 20; IV. 16.

Class I. Of the boys in this class only four were in at the last examination; the remainder had been taken up from Class II., except those who had been newly admitted during the year.

Scripture History.—The examination in this subject embraced the portion included between the entrance of the Israelites into the land of Canaan and the death of Solomon

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The answering was very far from general; of the 16 boys who were present, only three answered more than half the questions, and only five more than a quarter of them. This is to be attributed very much to the continuance of a defect in teaching which I have frequently noticed; when a boy makes a mistake the next boy below him who is able corrects him and takes his place, but the boy who made the mistake is never required to repeat the correction, thereby of course losing the whole benefit of it, for in many instances it is very doubtful if he even heard what it was.

What, therefore, I endeavour to impress upon the masters is the absolute necessity of requiring every boy who makes a mistake to repeat the correction of it at least once, and, if necessary, more frequently even than that.

English Reading.—An upper division, consisting of five boys, had been reading a portion of the History of Rome; of these one had lately joined the class; two answered satisfactorily; the remaining two were all but silent. Their reading was fluent and intelligent.

A second division had read ten chapters of the ancient history contained in volume VI. of the Instructor. The answering was general and satisfactory; their reading tolerably correct and intelligent.

The examination in grammar was by no means satisfactory; several of them were unable to distinguish the different parts of speech, and very few of them had anything like correct notions of construction.

Arithmetic.—Two were working examples in simple interest, eight in proportion, and six in fractions; and on a reference to my notes I observe that the first division worked all their sums correctly, only two of the second division failed to do the same, and in the third all received the full number of marks.

Algebra.—In this branch too there was a decided improvement, there being scarcely any failures in the different divisions; the sums varying from simple division to simple equations.

Geography.—In this subject I was little disappointed; not, however, so much with any deficiency or incorrectness in the answering as with a want of spirit in the examination conducted by one of the masters, and which was accounted for by the fact of his being entirely dependent upon his text-book for the questions. And this gives me the opportunity of suggesting to all our masters the desirableness of themselves reading over beforehand the lessons of each day, so as to refresh their memories, and render them less dependent on their text-books than they must otherwise of necessity be. It enables them also to collect and note down illustrations from other books. There is, perhaps, no subject in which this is more necessary; and the additional interest imparted to the lesson, and the greater progress made by the boys, will be found more than an ample recompence for the additional trouble, without which, however, I feel assured that no lesson can be properly taught.

A portion of Chambers's Introduction to the Sciences had been read by this class, and the answering bore testimony to the care which had been taken in rendering it intelligible to them.

Considerable attention had been paid, in connexion with their reading lessons, to the derivation of words, and I was very much pleased with the amount of information that had been acquired on this subject.

Class II.—The examination in Scripture was not so satisfactory in this class as I could have wished. Texts were repeated with apparently but little appreciation of the truths they contained; and in the historical portions the answering was neither general nor correct.

In the upper division in arithmetic the examples were worked correctly by nearly all in the lower, one boy failed entirely, but the rest gained at least two-thirds of the marks assigned. In algebra the working was very correct and quick.

In geography nearly half the class missed more questions than they answered; but in the history of England the answering was more general and more correct than I remember to have known it at previous examinations.

Their reading was fluent and intelligent; but their answering not nearly so good as their reading had led me to expect. There is a great want of the dissection of sentences, in examining classes as to their meaning. The masters seem satisfied if their boys have a general idea of their purport; and even that is too often suggested by themselves, rather than elicited from the boys. They wrote to dictation with great correctness and facility.

Class III. The boys of this class, I suspect, are unfortunately situated, being apt to be somewhat overlooked by the masters, in their not unnatural anxiety to promote the advancement of the two upper and two lower classes. There was a marked deficiency in almost every subject, which was accounted for partly, though by no means entirely, by the fact of several of the boys having lately come up from a lower class. There is no doubt, however, that the number of boys in the school is too great for the limited staff of masters, and this class would naturally suffer the most. I trust the Commission will sanction such additional aid as will remedy this very undesirable state of affairs.

Classes IV. and V. The boys in these two classes were mere beginners, not having advanced beyond the second reading book and the simplest elements of arithmetic; but they were quick and intelligent lads, and appeared to be making satisfactory progress.

I was sorry to observe, that the floor in the room lately added to the school was in a very bad state of repair. The bricks used appear to have been of an inferior description;

and the consequences are such as might have been expected from the constant trampling of a hundred boys, and the moving of benches and desks. A concrete of some description appears to be the best material for this purpose.

Kandy Mixed School.

The number on the books in this school was 106, and the average attendance 93. The boys were divided into six classes, as follows:—

I. 23; II. 20; III. 19; IV. 16; V. 10; VI. 18.

Classes I. and II. were examined together in the history of Moses, and the answering from two-thirds of the boys was satisfactory. Some difficulty arose from their inability to express themselves in English, but great pains had evidently been taken with the subject.

In geography too the classes were joined, and were said to be prepared for an examination on Asia and Africa; but I was sorry to find that they knew scarcely anything either of the maps or of the subject-matter of the text book.

In arithmetic the examples varied from the simple rules to interest. In Class I. the majority worked all the sums, but the result in Class II. was exactly the opposite.

Class I. read an historical passage from Book IV., a few with fluency and intelligence, but the rest with frequent mistakes, and but little attention to the meaning of the sentence. Very few were able to answer at all satisfactorily.

Class II. read a passage from Book III., and the same remarks may be made as to the result. I was particularly dissatisfied with this portion of the examination, as exhibiting a great deficiency in the art of teaching.

Class III. and IV. were examined in the history of Joseph and the life of Christ, the questions being put in Singhalese. So long as these were confined to the words of the text book the answering was satisfactory, but any attempt to vary them, or to introduce collateral subjects, invariably proved a failure. The great defect, indeed, in the teachers of this school is their inability to go beyond the very words of their text books.

The result of the examination in arithmetic was not satisfactory. Half of the upper class worked examples in simple multiplication correctly; but in Class IV. only two worked examples in subtraction, and three in addition.

Class III. read different passages from Book IV. Some were scarcely able to pronounce any of their words, others read pretty fairly, and a few with fluency and correctness. The answering in Singhalese was very fair indeed, but the spelling was by no means correct.

Class IV. read passages from the earlier portions of Book II. with a very fair pronunciation, and a correct translation of single words.

Classes V. and VI. were examined in the early history of the book of Genesis, and the life of John the Baptist. The answering was remarkably good, scarcely a single question being missed by the boy to whom it was put.

Their reading in Singhalese was very good indeed, and pretty fair in English, so far as it went. They wrote neatly on slates, and answered questions in simple addition correctly.

One great obstacle to the progress of this school is the extremely confined space in which it is held. There is one room, part of which is occupied by a gallery which will only just hold the boys when standing up en masse; there is no room, therefore, for the formation of classes, except in a line; and the lessons of one master must be constantly interrupted by those of another in close proximity to him. The erection of another room similar to the one added some time ago for the elementary school is absolutely necessary. The appointment of a more energetic head master would also be of great service to the school, which evidently suffers considerably from the very quiet way in which the teaching is at present conducted. An exchange with some other master might possibly be effected without much difficulty.

Kandy Girls' School.

I was sorry to find this school in anything but a satisfactory state. The assistant teacher had been absent a good deal from ill-health during the year, and other causes had been in operation to interfere with its well-being. The number of girls on the book was 71, and the average attendance 60. I examined the different classes in the various subjects which they professed to have been studying; but in scarcely one of them was the result anything but most unsatisfactory. The answering in the different subjects was confined to very few. Scarcely any of the examples in arithmetic were worked correctly, and altogether there was every evidence of very great deficiency. This was admitted by the head teacher, who attributed it to the fact of her having been for some time without her assistant; but I cannot persuade myself that this is the only cause of so serious a failure. It is not impossible that Miss Houliston will apply for leave of absence; and if it is granted steps should at once be taken to promote the improvement of the school.

The alterations in the building suggested last year have been carried out, and the schoolroom is now the best we have in the whole island.

Bolappe.

On the list, 22. Average attendance, 16. Class I. 1; II. 1; III. 3; IV. 17.

The distribution of the boys, in their respective classes, will show at once that this school is in a very elementary condition. The two upper boys read and wrote very fairly

indeed; and their answering showed that great pains had been taken to explain their reading lessons to them, In arithmetic, however, they had not advanced beyond numeration. The alphabet class was making very satisfactory progress, the method of teaching being much more systematical than is usual in such schools.

But the expenditure of £48 per annum for the education of 16 boys in a language which they will probably never use in after life seems to point to the establishment of vernacular schools as a better and less expensive medium of imparting instruction to the mass of the Kandyan population.

Matelle.

On the list, 31. Average attendance, 24. Class I. 2; II. 5; III. 10; IV. 24.

Classes I. and II. were examined together in the early part of the book of Genesis and of St. Matthew's Gospel, and answered extremely well. They worked examples in different rules in arithmetic from simple multiplication to interest. All worked correctly, and some very quickly indeed.

Class I. read a passage from Book IV. with ease and intelligence, and answered any questions upon it most satisfactorily.

Class II. read from Book III. Their pronunciation was remarkably correct, and their answering very creditable. Great pains had evidently been taken with them. Both classes wrote to dictation with tolerable correctness.

Class I. passed an extremely satisfactory examination on the map of Europe, and repeated several passages from Valpy's Poetical Chronology, showing by their answering that the principal circumstances connected with the events referred to had been carefully explained to them.

The boys in Class II. knew scarcely sufficient English to admit of their answering my questions in Scripture satisfactorily. I therefore directed the master to impart instruction in this branch in Singhalese. Their pronunciation in reading was very fair, and their answering much more satisfactory than on former occasions. Their spelling and translation of single words were very correct. Examples in three of the elementary rules of arithmetic were worked correctly. Their Singhalese reading was very good; but they had evidently not been accustomed to be questioned on the meaning of the lessons read; a point to which I directed the master's special attention. In Class IV. one boy, the son of a rateymahatmaya, read a passage from Book II. very nicely indeed, and spelled correctly; but his knowledge of the meaning even of single words was very imperfect. The rest were mere beginners.

On the whole I had great reason to be satisfied with the state of this school.

Akurambodde.

The school in this village had only been lately re-opened after a long interval; but few boys had been collected, and even their attendance was far from being regular. Those who were present seemed to be making satisfactory progress.

Gampola.

On the list, 28. Average attendance, 19. Class I. 8; II. 5; III. 7; IV. 8.

Class I. and II. were examined together in a portion of St. Luke's Gospel, the first four answering in English, and the rest in Singhalese. The majority of them appeared to have a very fair knowledge of the principal events recorded. Three boys worked examples in compound multiplication quite correctly; and of eight who attempted simple multiplication only one failed.

Class I. read a passage from Book III. with ease and intelligence, their pronunciation being remarkably correct, and their answering very satisfactory; they also passed a very creditable examination on the map of Asia.

There was a deficiency of books in Class II., and the natural consequence was an unsatisfactory examination as to reading; but the answering showed that pains had been taken to explain the passages read.

In Class III. several boys read passages containing words of two syllables, spelling the words correctly, and giving explanations of simple terms in Singhalese. Half of the class worked examples in addition and subtraction correctly.

Class IV. were mere beginners. Finding that the master had been engaged in drawing up petitions for several of the litigants in the police court, I forbad his doing so, as being a course of procedure quite incompatible with his position as the schoolmaster of the village. He is evidently dissatisfied with his position, and will probably take the first opportunity of engaging in some other employment.

Nawalpitiya.

On the list, 33. Average attendance, 23. Class I. 3; II. 8; III. 7; IV. 16.

Classes I. and II. were examined together in the earlier chapters of Genesis and St. Matthew's Gospel, and answered very correctly indeed. Four worked examples in compound multiplication, and seven in subtraction. The reading of Class I. in Book III. was intelligent, their answering satisfactory, and their spelling and translation correct. Class II. read and answered equally well in Book II.

Class III. read words of three and four letters, but not at all fluently; nor were they able to translate.

Class IV. read words of two or more letters.

The master had only been three months in charge of this school, but had evidently been diligent in the discharge of his duties.

Nuwara Eliya.

On list, 43. Average attendance, 30. Class I. 2; II. 9; III. 8; IV. 24.

Classes I. and II. were examined in the Pentateuch and the four Gospels; the answering from one of the boys was remarkably good, but the rest were comparatively silent, three of them having been but lately admitted into Class II. Their reading of a passage from Book III. was fluent and intelligent, and their answering very satisfactory, accompanied by correct translations of words and phrases. The spelling and parsing were both better than at the last examination. Two boys explained correctly the principles of simple proportion, and worked examples with great facility. Their answering in geography, on Europe and Asia, was very creditable. The writing to dictation was correct, and their Singhalese reading remarkably good.

In the Scriptural examination, the answering in Class III. and IV. was very good, so far as it went; but it was not nearly so general as it ought to have been. The reading and spelling of Class III. were very creditable, and their penmanship remarkably good. Elementary lessons in drawing were given to the upper boys, and some very successful attempts were exhibited. Great exertions had been made by the chaplain of the station to establish an industrial school, and with considerable success, so far as the preparation of means was concerned. A comparatively large sum of money had been collected; a grant of land procured from Government, an acre of which was in process of cultivation; a supply of seed-potato of a superior kind had been received, and materials for erecting a schoolhouse were being prepared. If untiring energy can secure success, there need be no fear of the failure of this experiment, attempted and to the present time carried out in the face of difficulties of no ordinary character. Mr. Mooyaart has had the assistance and sympathy of many friends; and if the results are not successful, it will not be owing to any want of zeal on his part, but simply to the force of circumstances over which no control can be exercised.

Badulla.

On the list, 30. Average attendance, 20. Class I. 4; II. 7; III. 5; IV. 14.

Class I. was examined in portions of the book of Joshua and the Acts of the Apostles. The answering was remarkably good,—such as I scarcely ever have the pleasure of meeting with.

Of two who attempted compound proportion, one worked quite correctly, but the other did not understand the principle of the rule; the others worked examples correctly in fractions. They read a passage from Book IV. with great fluency and intelligence, and their answering was most satisfactory. The examination on the text book of geography was extremely satisfactory, but they had no maps fit to use.

The reading, spelling, and translation of Class II. were correct, but they failed very much in answering questions on the passage read. This was owing chiefly to their defective knowledge of English.

Classes I. and II. read passages from Books I. and II. respectively, and were evidently making satisfactory progress. The penmanship was not so good as it usually is in schools of this kind.

Badulla Vernacular Schools.

Of these two schools I am sorry to be obliged to have to make the same unsatisfactory report as in former years. Beyond learning ola writings by heart, the Tamil boys are doing positively nothing. Even the quickest among them, the servants of some of the European residents, are unable to read at sight.

In the Singhalese school a few were able to read pretty well, but it was quite evident that they were never asked a single question; nor had they made any progress in arithmetic. If trained masters are sent into this district, one may hope for a better state of things; but with the present men it is quite out of the question.

Hadenia.

On list, 19. Average attendance, 12. Class I. 8; II. 6; III. 5.

Class I. was examined in the book of Genesis and St. Matthew's Gospel, and answered very satisfactorily indeed. Their pronunciation was correct, and their mode of reading intelligent; while their answering showed that great pains had been taken in explaining the meaning of the lessons to them. Examples in proportion and simple multiplication were worked correctly and quickly by the two divisions of the class; and their answering in the geography of Ceylon was very satisfactory.

Two boys in Class II. read English very nicely, and the whole class passed a satisfactory examination in Balaprabodhana. The boys of Class III. read and translated short English

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sentences correctly, and their acquaintance with the meaning of their Singhalese lessons was very creditable.

The master having been only a few months at work, the state of the school did him great credit; and there was a general appearance of intelligence and quickness among the boys, which one does not often witness.

PITIYAGEDARA.

On list, 25; average attendance, 15; Class I. 2; II. 3; III. 23.

The boys in Classes I. and II. read pretty well in different portions of Book II., and worked examples, the former in compound multiplication, the latter in simple addition. The rest are in various stages of progress in Book I.

There seems to be great indifference on the part of people in this district. Schools have been tried in different parts of it, but in none has it been possible to secure a regular attendance.

NORTHERN PROVINCE.

Extract of Letter from Rev. J. Walton.

"The enclosed printed circular will put the Commission in possession of full information as to certain changes which came into operation in our Central School at the beginning of the year.

"I am now in a position to state some of the probable results.

"In the Central School there are now 43 boys, who pay a monthly fee of 1*s.* 6*d.*; and 44 boys who pay a fee of 1*s.* In the Preparatory School connected with the above, there are 20 boys, who pay a monthly fee of 6*d.*

"These fees may seem small in amount, and are, indeed, by no means what the pupils should pay, and must eventually pay; but it should be considered that the same boys were paying 6*d.* and 3*d.* respectively, and a proportion of them receiving a gratuitous education, up to January of this year. In order to estimate the position of this school, it must be borne in mind that the Roman Catholic school in the neighbourhood, as I am informed, demands no fees at all.

"As to the present effect of these changes, the improvement in the school, with reference to regularity of attendance and application, is very encouraging. It is worthy of remark, that I have had but four applications for free admission.

"This scale of fees has excluded a class of boys who, I have long thought, ought not to seek an English education. I am afraid that few desire English except as a qualification for a Government appointment, and the former low scale of fees attracted a large number of boys from those manual occupations which no lad follows here who has got a smattering of English.

"In this part of the island I decidedly think that the time has come when some restriction should be placed upon the facilities for obtaining an education in English; unless, indeed, Government is prepared to employ a moiety of the population in the public service, and pension or deport the rest. Some of our former pupils are in Madras, Cochin, and even at the gold diggings in Australia and California; others of them are contemplating offering themselves for employment in the territory recently acquired in Burmah.

"A few superior English schools, protected as in England, by a proper scale of fees, may be necessary; and if these are efficiently conducted, they will always be filled by an industrious race of scholars who will do credit to their teachers, and who will find, when they have completed their course, that their education has not unfitted them for obtaining a living."

(*Circular.*) WESLEYAN JAFFNA MISSION.

An impression having gone abroad that this mission is about to abolish its Central School, or at least discontinue therein the teaching and use of the English language, and many inquiries having been made on the subject, it seems a suitable occasion for making the following statement in this public manner, especially as we have determined on some important modifications of our plans.

I.—We have not only no intention of breaking up this establishment, but we hope to place it on a surer foundation, and raise it to a higher state of general efficiency.

II.—The mission will continue to give, on an improved system, a thorough English education in practical subjects. We shall teach our pupils to read, write, and speak the English language with facility and correctness, that object being secured by a select course of religious, historical, and scientific reading. Considerable attention will be paid to Indian history and geography. Arithmetic will be carefully and thoroughly taught. The grammar and literature of the Tamil language will form a prominent part of the curriculum.

III.—The Rev. W. Barber is the principal. The whole of his time is devoted to the interests of the school and regular class tuition. He is assisted by a staff of six teachers.

IV.—The expenditure of this department is very considerable, and has hitherto been borne chiefly by mission funds. Henceforth, they who seek the advantages of the school, will be required to contribute a small proportion of the cost of its maintenance.

V.—We think the universal desire for English requires to be abated. It is undeniable that many have received an English education to whom it has proved a calamity rather than a boon. Mechanical trades, agriculture, and manual labour of every kind are eschewed by all who have been pupils in our English schools. The Government offices and the three missions can entertain the services of but a limited number of young men who graduate in these establishments. The mass remain without employment.

VI.—The following arrangements, to come into operation from January 1st, 1856, whilst they are extremely favourable to the public, considering the superior education we give, will, it is thought, tend to restrict, in some measure, English education to those to whom, from their position and circumstances, it may prove a good, and not an evil.

1. The first and second classes will be required to pay 4*s.* 6*d.* per quarter; the other classes 3*s.* per quarter. These fees must be paid in advance. The pupils must find their own stationery and writing materials as heretofore.

2. The mission will henceforth provide all maps and school books required by the pupils during the whole course of study, and for the use of these books an entrance fee of 5*s.* will be charged. This payment may be made in equal instalments, provided the whole amount be paid within the first year.

As the term of study of the present first and second classes will be limited, and as they have been at the expense of providing themselves with several books, it is intended to make, in their case, a smaller charge. The first class will pay 1*s.* 8*d.*, and the second class 2*s.* 6*d.* New pupils, entering either of these classes, will be charged the full amount of the fee.

3. The mission reserves to itself the privilege of admitting free pupils in particular cases. No boys will be received into the Central School who are not able to read with tolerable ease in the New Testament and in the Second Book of Lessons. For those who do not reach this standard, a preparatory school will be opened, with a charge for eath pupil of 6*d.* per month.

VII.—We wish it to be distinctly understood by all that these schools are decidedly Christian, and that all our arrangements will be made with reference to the moral and religious improvement of those young persons who may be committed to our care.

JOHN WALTON,
General Superintendent.

Jaffna, 5th Dec. 1855.

STATISTICS.

CENTRAL SCHOOL.

43 boys paying 4*s.* 6*d.* per quarter.
44 do. 3*s.* 0*d.* do.
2 free boys.

89 Total number of boys.

PREPARATORY SCHOOL.

20 boys paying 6*d.* per month.
1 free boy.

21 Total number of boys.

March 10th, 1856.

Extract of Letter from REV. R. BREN.

"We would further add:—

"1.—That in consequence of large numbers of youths who were educated in English, and are now unable to obtain employment, and the cultivation of tobacco, &c. having greatly increased in the province, the parents seem less disposed to send their children to learn than they were formerly, when they saw the advantages obtained by those who studied English, and obtained situations with large salaries.

"2.—Although the circumstances of the time and people required some change, the Church Mission has not deemed it advisable to relinquish all English education, but to restrict it within certain limits. The seminary at Chundicully, which was formerly a boarding establishment, and as such objectionable to some of the higher classes, on account of caste distinction, has been transformed into a day-school, but without any change in the studies. This enables all parties to avail themselves of the privileges of the school, as those who come from a distance, and are unable to return home, can find their own board wherever they please. The curriculum of study is calculated to fit the boys for any useful situation in life which they may be called to occupy. Inasmuch as we consider this school sufficient to supply all with an English education to whom it would probably prove of any avail, we have discontinued the other English schools which were supported by the mission, for boys who learned in English schools in the villages seldom prosecuted their studies long enough to obtain such a knowledge of the language as would prove beneficial to them.

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"3.—On the other hand, more attention has been given to the vernacular. A training institution has been opened for masters, where 20 youths,—the funds allowed by the mission being sufficient only to support that number,—are instructed in Tamil literature, grammar, geography, arithmetic, history, and the Scriptures. The youths are taken from all parts of the country, and it is hoped they will be the means of raising the standard of education in the vernacular. Those educated in English were both unwilling, and, in most cases, incompetent to teach Tamil.

"4.—The mission has reduced the number of vernacular schools, with a view of concentrating their strength, and raising the standard of the schools. Formerly there were schools in almost every village; but the children learned simply to read, and one or two small catechisms. Now geography, arithmetic, quotations from Tamil classics, grammar, &c., &c., have been added to the lessons formerly taught. The schools are so placed that all can attend who wish, and the missionary can more frequently visit and examine them.

"5.—One of the society's missionaries now gives his whole time to the superintendence of the training institution and schools."

ROBT. BREN,
Jaffna, Feb., 1856. Supt. Educational Dept., C. M. S.

GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS throughout CEYLON.

Schools.	Teachers.	Annual Salary.	Annual Rent.
		£ s.	£ s.
THE COLOMBO ACADEMY	Principal - - Rev. B. Boake (on leave).	—	,,
	(Acting) - - Rev. A. Kessen - -	250 0	,,
	Second teacher - E. C. Caldwell, Esq. - -	370 0	,,
	Third master - Mr. A. De Zoysa - -	48 0	,,
COLOMBO CENTRAL SCHOOL	Principal of the Central School of Colombo and Native Normal Institution - Rev. A. Kessen -	500 0	54 0
	1st Assist. teacher - Mr. D. Gogerly - - -	130 0	,,
	2d teacher - - ,, J. Silva - - -	36 0	,,
	3d Assist. teacher - ,, J. Jansz - - -	36 0	,,
NATIVE NORMAL INSTITUTION.	Head teacher - ,, J. Perera - - -	84 0	,,
	Assistant do. - ,, Siman Silva - -	18 0	,,
	18 Native Normal Students at 6*l.* each - -	108 0	,,
Elementary Schools.			
St. Thomas - -	Head teacher - Mr. J. R. Blake - - -	100 0	48 0
	1st Assistant do. - ,, D. S. Perera - -	42 0	,,
	2d do. - - ,, J. C. Misso - -	36 0	,,
Colombo Boys - -	Head teacher - ,, J. W. Spaar - -	84 0	36 0
	Assistant do. - ,, R. Elders - -	42 0	,,
Grand Pass - -	Head teacher - ,, J. G. Andriesen - -	100 0	42 0
	Assistant do. - ,, E. Ludekens - -	48 0	,,
Slave Island - -	Head teacher - ,, M. Perera - -	100 0	24 0
	Assistant do. - ,, Don Hendrick - -	18 0	,,
Caltura - -	Head teacher - ,, J. Garth - -	84 0	,,
	Assistant do. - ,, J. de Hoedt - -	24 0	,,
Negombo - - -	Head teacher - ,, F. B. Nicholas - -	72 0	24 0
Galle - - -	Head teacher - ,, J. E. Anthonisz - -	84 0	36 0
	Assistant do. - ,, J. R. Anthonisz - -	36 0	,,
Matura - -	Head teacher - ,, James Barton - -	78 0	,,
	Assistant do. - ,, G. H. Ernst - -	24 0	,,
Kandy - - -	Additional teacher Rev. E. Labrooy - -	120 0	,,
	Head teacher - Mr. R. P. Jansz - -	84 0	,,
Mixed Schools.			
Wellicadde Gaol - -	S. & E. teacher - ,, Don Louis - -	24 0	,,
	Assistant do. - ,, A. Perera - - -	10 16	,,
	Tamil do. - - ,, Asarawade Pulle - -	12 0	,,
Marandahn - -	Head teacher - ,, C. D. Anthonisz - -	42 0	9 0
	Assistant do. - ,, L. D. Abrew - -	18 0	,,
Colpetty - - -	Head teacher - ,, H. Perera - - -	54 0	18 0
	Monitor.	—	,,
Kandane - -	Teacher - - ,, J. F. Poulier - -	42 0	,,
Pantura - - -	Head teacher - ,, W. Van Cuylenberg -	60 0	,,
	Assistant do. - ,, C. Pieris - - -	15 0	,,
Wadua - - -	Head teacher - ,, A. Parys - - - -	42 0	,,
Avishawelle - -	Head teacher - ,, A. De Silva Jayawardene	48 0	,,
Kaigalle - - -	Head teacher - ,, E. H. Goondewille -	36 0	,,
Ratnapoora - -	Head teacher - ,, T. F. Labrooy - -	36 0	,,
Bentotte - - -	Head teacher - ,, D. De Silva Gooneratne -	48 0	,,
	Assistant do. - ,, Don Abraham Wettahatchy	12 0	,,

Schools.	Teachers.	Annual Salary.	Annual Rent.
		£ s.	£ s.
Hickodde	Teacher — Mr. J. M. Anthonisz	36 0	18 0
Galle	Head teacher — „ J. E. Jansz	48 0	30 0
	1st Assistant do. — „ W. Anwardt	18 0	„
	2d do. — „ D. S. Wickerema	18 0	„
	3d do. — „ S. de Silva	18 0	„
	Monitor — „ H. de Silva	3 0	„
Belligam	Teacher — „ A. de Silva, Mohandiram	36 0	7 4
Trincomalie	Teacher — „ G. Philips	48 0	9 0
	Assistant — „ Mylawagenem	18 0	„
Nillewelly	Teacher — „ J. Crowther	48 0	„
Moodoor	Teacher — „ J. Anderson	48 0	„
Kandy	Head teacher — „ C. Fonseka	48 0	„
	Assistant do. — „ W. Wijeyekoon Kanangere	18 0	„
Kandy Industrial School	Teacher — „ J. Windle	60 0	„
	2d do. — „ J. Wickremesekere	18 0	„
Matelle	Teacher — „ J. M. Goonetilleke	48 0	„
Gampolla	Teacher — „ J. Pieris	48 0	„
Rickiligaskedde	Teacher — „ J. M. Rannesingha	48 0	„
Hadenia	Teacher — „ Wickremesekere	48 0	„
Pettiagadara	Teacher — „ J. A. Hopman	48 0	„
Nawellapitie	Teacher — „ M. Ashethesen	48 0	„
Bolapay	Teacher — „ W. D. S. Wicramasekere	48 0	„
Akurambodde	Teacher — „ C. Jayesinhe	36 0	„
Badulla	Teacher — „ G. De Silva	48 0	15 0
Nuwera Ellia	Teacher — „ A. Wijesekere	48 0	12 0
Calpentyn	Teacher — „ J. Vinton	36 0	„
Chilaw	Teacher — „ G. Pels	48 0	9 0
Putlam	Teacher — „ W. E. Lewis	36 0	„
Kornegalle	Teacher — „ D. A. Goonesekere	60 0	„
	Assistant teacher — „ W. Fonseka	18 0	„
Madampe	Teacher — „ F. Ondaatjie	48 0	„
Mullativoe	Teacher — „ T. Fry	24 0	„
Manaar	Teacher — „ De Hoedt	36 0	„
Female Superior Schools.			
Colombo Female Seminary.	Head teacher — Mrs. R. Elliott (on leave)	— —	24 0
	Miss Andree (acting)	100 0	„
	1st Assistant do. — Mrs. J. Lindsay	48 0	„
	Pupil mistress — „ L. Fermer	18 0	„
Colombo Girls' School	Head teacher — „ L. Palm	260 0	30 0
	1st Assistant — Miss E. Ball	12 0	„
	2d do. — „ M. Jansz	12 0	„
	3d do. — „ J. Kretzer	12 0	„
	Needlework mistress Mrs. Koelmeyer	24 0	„
Kandy Girls' School	Head teacher — Miss Houliston	200 0	48 0
	Assistant do. — Mrs. H. Jansz	36 0	„
Galle Girls' School	Head teacher — „ M. Braybrooke	200 0	21 0
	1st Assistant do. — Mr. G. H. Anthonisz	36 0	„
	2d Assistant do. — Mrs. G. H. Anthonisz	36 0	„
Female Mixed Schools.			
Borelle	Head teacher — Mrs. C. M. A. Louis	18 0	9 0
	Assistant do. — „ Wilhelmina Perera	12 0	„
Colpetty	Head teacher — Mr. J. Botejoe	18 0	18 0
	Needlework mistress Mrs. Franciscus	12 0	„
Pantura	Head teacher — „ S. VanCuylenberg	18 0	6 0
	Assistant ditto — Mr. Johanes Perera	7 4	„
Caltura	Joint teachers — Mrs. C. S. Leembruggen	18 0	„
	Joint teachers — „ Dominga Pieris	18 0	„
Trincomalie Tamil	Head teacher — „ A. Mattheisz	24 0	1 16
	Monitor — Miss Harriet Hunter	6 0	„
Jaffna	Teacher — „ Jane Marthensz	24 0	„
Vernacular Female Schools.			
Wellewatte	Teacher — Mrs. Dona Welmina	12 0	„
	Assistant do. — „ D. De Alwis	7 4	„
Battakattra	Teacher — „ Christina	12 0	„
Kotanya	Teacher — „ L. Gomes	12 0	„
Desaster Caltura	Teacher — „ C. Silva	12 0	„
Widagame	Teacher — „ C. C. Carline	12 0	„
Deulpitiya	Teacher — „ Dona Bastiana	12 0	„

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Schools.	Teachers.	Annual Salary.	Annual Rent.
		£ s.	£ s.
Vernacular Boys' Schools.			
Payagalla	Head teacher - Mr. Don Christian	18 0	1 16
	Assistant do. - ,, O. F. D. Gooneratne	9 0	,,
Barbaryn	Teacher - ,, Don Anthony de Alwis	18 0	2 14
	Assistant do. - ,, S. Perera	9 0	,,
Hangwelle	Teacher - ,, D. J. Ameresakera	18 0	,,
Sedua	Teacher - ,, Paul Silva	18 0	,,
	Assistant do. - ,, P. D. Cornelis	9 0	,,
Dehewille	Teacher - ,, Benjamin Stark	18 0	,,
	Assistant do. - ,, Johannes Stark	9 0	,,
Wattella	Teacher - ,, Alexander Rodrigo	18 0	,,
Bandaragam	Teacher - ,, Don Alexander	18 0	,,
Mattacooly	Teacher - ,, Arnolis Swaris	18 0	,,
	Assistant do. - ,, C. S. Wickremesakra	9 0	,,
Millagria	Head teacher - ,, Don Joseph	18 0	,,
	Assistant do. - ,, Istaphin Silva	9 0	,,
Kohilewatte	Teacher - ,, Constantin Perera	18 0	,,
Slave Island	Head teacher - ,, C. Alwis	18 0	9 0
	Assistant do. - ,, J. Candappa	10 16	,,
Dandogam	Head teacher - ,, Don Bastian	18 0	,,
	1st Assistant do. - ,, Johannes Fernando	18 0	,,
	2d Assistant do. - ,, Savary Perera	9 0	,,
Katane	Teacher - ,, Joseph Fernando	18 0	,,
Minuangodde	Teacher - ,, Johannes Fernando 2d	18 0	,,
Weweldenia	Teacher - ,, Isaac Pieris	18 0	,,
Dodangodde	Teacher - ,, Johannes Dias	18 0	,,
Horogolla	Teacher - ,, Floris Perera	18 0	,,
Peleyagodde	Teacher - ,, Don Matheisz	18 0	,,
	Additional - ,, Don A. de Silva	18 0	,,
Attadia	Teacher - ,, Siman Fernando	18 0	,,
Ballangodde	Teacher - ,, Don Siman	18 0	,,
Calany	Teacher - ,, Don Jeronimus	18 0	,,
Kottanya	Teacher - ,, C. Dias	18 0	,,
Hirrewelle	Teacher - ,, Don Johannes	18 0	,,
Calpentyn (Tamil)	Teacher - ,, A. Caderewelle	13 10	,,
Doomaldenia (Singhalese)	Teacher - ,, Johannes Pieris	18 0	,,
Akinmena	Teacher - ,, J. Alwis	18 0	,,
Dondra	Teacher - ,, Lewis Peter Gerhard	18 0	,,
Badulla	Teacher - ,, Don Louis de Silva	18 0	,,
Badulla (Tamil)	Teacher - ,, S. Mailwaganem	18 0	,,

List of Government Schools, showing their Classification, the average number of Pupils on the Lists, and the average number of Pupils in daily attendance.

	Number of Pupils. On List.	In daily attendance.
Superior Schools.		
Colombo Academy	56	
Colombo Central School	65	
Native Normal Institution:		165
Normal Students	22	
Pupils	22	
	165	165
Elementary Schools.		
St. Thomas	86	75
Colombo	60	60
Grand-Pass	76	70
Slave Island	50	48
Negombo	46	37
Galle	37	32
Matura	62	52
Kandy	86	72
Caltura	75	62
	578	508
Mixed Schools.		
Wellicadde Gaol—		
Singhalese	83	83
Tamil	84	80
Marandahn	52	51
Colpetty	41	38
Kandane	51	46
Pantura	50	48
Waduwa	32	26
Avisawelle	21	16
Ratnapoora	25	22
Kaigalle	18	14
Bentotte	57	43
Hickodde	18	12
Galle	137	106
Belligam	26	19
Trincomalie	62	44
Kandy	100	90
Matelle	30	24
Gampola	25	17
Rikiligaskadde	3	2
Madewelletenne	17	12
Pitiagedere	20	11
Nawelepitiye	32	28
Bolaepay	22	12
Akurambodde (Matelle)		
Badulla	29	18
Nuwera Ellia	43	34
Manaar	29	24
Mullativoe	44	22
Madampe	35	33

	Number of Pupils. On List.	In daily attendance.
Chilaw	12	5
Calpentyn	20	12
Putlam	7	5
Kurnegalle	38	20
Nillawally	26	26
Moodoor	50	30
	1339	1073
Female Superior Schools.		
Female Seminary	76	66
Colombo	102	87
Kandy	74	65
Galle	67	44
	319	262
Female Mixed Schools.		
Borella	46	29
Colpetty	31	24
Pantura	38	34
Caltura	45	25
Trincomalie (Tamil)	23	5
Jaffna	25	18
	208	135
Vernacular Female Schools.		
Wellewatte	22	12
Battacatra	22	12
Kottawa	35	17
Vidagamme	22	22
Desaster Caltura	24	20
Dewulpitiye	28	15
	153	98
Vernacular Boys' Schools.		
Attidia	36	23
Calany	41	23
Dehewelle	56	36
Kohillewatte	46	37
Mattacooly	52	32
Milagria	56	41
Paliagodde	62	42
Slave Island	47	35
Watelle	41	23
Dandogam	70	52
Seedua	55	44
Katane	50	34
Minuangodde	30	18
Hangwelle	29	16
Ovitigama	35	29
Weweldenia	25	13
Hiriwelle	36	19
Ballangodde	8	1
Kottawy	36	18
Bandaragama	60	40
Dodangodde	21	18
Payagalle	64	32
Barbaryn	72	53
Akmmene	20	5
Dondra	23	19
Badulla (Tamil)	32	23
Do. (Singhalese)	33	18
Doomaldeenia	48	35
Calpentyn (Tamil)	36	30
	1220	809
Jaffna Grant Schools.		
Church Mission - £150	245	133
American do. - £200	459	329
Wesleyan do. - £150	150	136
Roman Catholics - £150	0	0
	854	598
Recapitulation.		
3 Superior schools	165	155
9 Elementary schools	578	508
34 Mixed schools	1339	1073
4 Superior female schools	319	262
6 English female schools	208	135
6 Vernacular female schools	153	98
29 Vernacular boys' schools	1220	809
21 Jaffna grant schools	854	598
112	4836	3638

List of Jaffna Grant Schools.

Boys.	On List.	Average attendance.	On List.	Average attendance
American Mission.				
Tallepally (English)	40	23		
Mallagam (English)	34	17		
Oodoopity (English)	9	6		
Batticotta	36	33		
Carrative	71	56		
Narantary	50	36		
Manapay (English)	30	25		
			270	196
Wesleyan Mission.				
Mission House boys' English school	133	121		
Point Pedro boys' school	17	15		
			150	136
Church Mission.				
Nellore boys' English day school	25	15		
Chundicully English day school	44	22		
Copay boys' school	66	27		
Chundicully Tamil day school	41	31		
			175	95
Roman Catholic Mission.				
Jaffna boys' school	0	0	0	0
			595	427

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Girls.	On List.	Average attendance.	On List.	Average attendance.
American Mission.				
Manapey (English)	45	31		
Batticotta	34	29		
Pandateripo	43	39		
Tellepalle (Tamil)	67	34		
			189	133
Wesleyan Mission.				
St. Paul's girls' school	0	0		
Church Mission.				
Copay girls' school	35	18		
Chundicully girls' school	35	20		
			70	38
Roman Catholic Mission.				
Jaffna girls' school	0	0		
			259	171

Statement showing the Expenditure on account of the Educational Establishment in 1855.

	£	s.	d.
Fixed salaries	3,099	18	0¼
Provisional and temporary salaries	4,526	8	8
Allowances and contingencies	880	9	0
Rent of schoolhouses	531	7	6
Transport	71	10	0
Total expenditure	9,109	13	2¼
Deduct amount of school fees recovered	876	19	2¾
Net expenditure	£8,232	13	11½

Encl. 4. in No. 43.

Enclosure 4. in No. 43.

Sir, Colombo, April 9, 1856.

In answer to your letter, No. 942, of the 7th instant, I have the honour to forward you a Report of the State of the Queen's House.

Report of the State of the Queen's House, Colombo.

Main Building.—The repairs reported as necessary in the report of the Assistant Civil Engineer, dated 30th December 1854, are now being carried out, and upon their completion in the early part of the next month, the whole of the main building will be in a thorough state of repair.

The Right Wing, Kitchen, and Out Offices.—The repairs required as mentioned in the previous report are now almost completed, which will put these buildings into a thorough state of repair.

Stabling, &c.—The whole of these buildings were recently repaired, and are now in every respect in good order.

The gates and railings surrounding the whole of the grounds are now being thoroughly repaired.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. F. Churchill,
Assistant Civil Engineer.

The Commissioners of Roads,
and Civil Engineer, Colombo.

Encl. 5. in No.

Enclosure 5. in No. 43.

Sir, Peradenia, April 17, 1856.

In compliance with the directions contained in your letter, No. 941, of the 7th instant, I have the honour to state, that the Pavilion at Kandy is in good repair, with the exception of the roof, which was so far decayed that it was necessary to remove it.

The building is, however, perfectly habitable, as a temporary roof of cadjans and straw has been erected over it, pending the construction of a new tiled roof, for which materials are being collected.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. A. Caley,
Ag. C. of R. and C. Engr.

The Commissioners of Roads,
and Civil Engineer, Colombo.

Enclosure 6. in No. 43.

REPORT of the PUBLIC FURNITURE of the QUEEN'S HOUSE, COLOMBO, and the PAVILION in KANDY.

1. The various articles of furniture purchased at different times under the authority of the Secretary of State, referred to in the report submitted last year by Mr. Bernard, have been maintained in good order, and in serviceable condition.

2. The quantity of furniture provided for the public apartments in these two principal residences of the Governor is sufficient, but it is composed of every variety of description, forming a motley mixture of very old Dutch and somewhat more modern patterns of various woods.

3. It would be very desirable to replace the furniture in the public apartments with some of more suitable pattern, and of modern design. This might be gradually effected, if a certain sum were annually granted for the purpose, until an uniform pattern is generally introduced. The actual cost of carrying out such an arrangement would be materially diminished by the amount which will be realized by the sale of the old furniture as it is gradually replaced.

4. By a vote of the Legislature in the Supplementary Supply Bill of last year, 300*l.* was granted for furnishing the bedrooms and private apartments of the Queen's House and Pavilion, while 200*l.* more have been provided in the Supply Bill of the present year for the same purpose. The former sum has been expended, and the latter is being gradually applied to this most desirable object. When accomplished, it will prove a very great accommodation, while it will obviate the excessive inconvenience which has hitherto been experienced by successive Governors, who on their first arrival in the colony have had a house with bare walls (the public reception rooms excepted) to go to.

5. Governors in future will be required to pay 10 per cent. per annum on so much of the 500*l.* thus voted under the sanction of the Secretary of State as may be actually laid out for their accommodation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. T. LAVARD, Lt. Col.
A. D. C. Genl.

Deputy Commissary General's Office,
Colombo, May 2, 1856.

HONG KONG.

No. 44.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir JOHN BOWRING to the Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 82.)

Government Offices,
Victoria, Hong Kong, May 24, 1856.

(Received August 6, 1856.)

SIR,

I HAVE now the honour of forwarding to you the Blue Book for the Year 1855, and have no doubt you will share my satisfaction in reviewing the position and the prospects of the colony. No. 1. No. 2.

2. I need not refer to the various topics which the Colonial Secretary has made the subject of his interesting and comprehensive letter, except where some observation seems specially required.

3. The increase of trade in all its branches, though not recorded in custom house statistics, is a matter of notoriety, and evidenced by every indication of prosperity.

4. There is an improvement in the character of the Chinese population. Many of the natives, growing in wealth, have grown in respectability. There is more disposition than there has ever been among a better class of Chinese traders to settle on the island, while many great commercial houses in China, both British and American, have lately made Hong Kong their central point of establishment. The development of steam navigation, the rapid extension of trading relations with Australia and California, the increase of trade on the coasts of China, the opening of Siam, and the security which the flag of Great Britain offers against piratical attacks, are among the causes which have led to the happy results we are daily witnessing.

5. My exertions will be zealously directed to the securing for the colony an income from sources which shall in no respect interfere with its progressive prosperity, and which shall be adequate, without assistance from the Imperial

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Treasury, for accomplishing the various objects of public improvements which are likely to be most substantially and permanently useful. These will of course be the subjects of special reports.

6. The topic of the public health occupies the constant attention of the Government. Exaggerated statements as to the mortality in the colony having been industriously circulated, and false reports prevailing as to the prevalence of fatal epidemics, I caused an investigation to take place, the result of which shows, that for the months of February, March and April the average mortality did not exceed 1 in 7000 per day.

7. I think it is desirable that there should be in the colony a re-distribution of duty, and a revision of salaries, and that the recommendations of the Colonial Secretary are entitled to much consideration; but the inquiries and investigations must naturally take a more distinct and special shape. It would, however, be useful to know that Her Majesty's Government looks favourably on proposals for a readjustment of functions and their appropriate recompence.

8. I see no adequate cause for anticipating any such defalcation of the revenue as will be incompatible with the proper payment of officials and the progress and management of useful public works.

9. I would not venture, even supposing there were a chance of the proposal being entertained by Her Majesty's Government, to support the recommendation from the Colonial Secretary of a differential duty in favour of teas shipped for England from Hong Kong. In my view the whole system of differential duties is obnoxious in principle, fraudulent in practice, and disappointing in result. Nor can I suppose that Parliament would ever sanction so retrogressive and unsound a measure, especially in the case of a self-supporting colony, not producing in itself a single chest of the article in question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BOWRING.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 44.

Enclosure in No. 44.

(No. 289.)

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria,
Hong Kong, April 25, 1856.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the Blue Book for the year 1855, the perusal of which will I believe fairly prove that the past year has been the most promising since the foundation of the colony.

2. The two points most worthy of notice are, the increase of the population and the favourable result of the land sales.

3. Within the last eight years the population has been more than trebled, while an increase of nearly 17,000 is shown over the returns of 1854. The number as given in the Registrar General's Comparative Table is, for the past year, 72,607; for the previous year, 1854, 55,715; and for 1848, 23,998.

4. The state, still somewhat unsettled, of the neighbouring province, is of course the moving cause of this influx of people, and it is useful to observe that during each of the past years the increase has been at about an equal rate.

5. One natural and necessary result of the increased population is the increase of trade, which is admitted on all sides, though the Government is unprepared to prove it by statistics, owing to the, in all other respects, wise and judicious absence of a custom house.

6. Several merchants have, however, during the past six months, remarked to me on the large trade (and this a ready money trade) springing up here, in a manner for which they are unable to account; and only yesterday one gentleman informed me, that but a short time back he sold an entire ship's cargo, to the value of some $30,000, in the course of a single morning.

7. The class of Chinese traders, notwithstanding, is comparatively low, and not wealthy, as evinced in part by the high rate of interest ruling in the colony, which may be quoted at 3 per cent. per mensem, or 36 per cent. per annum.

8. But now that the large European and American houses have, to some extent, fixed branch or head establishments here, as many have during 1855, it is possible that the richer native men of business may be induced to follow; and I think we may now begin to entertain a hope that such firms as the Chin-Chew

Hongs may settle here, and the project be realized which Sir John Davis did his utmost to encourage in the infancy of the colony, upwards of ten years ago.

9. The revenue of the colony may next call for remark, and of this the most important item comes under the head of rent from leased lands. The Surveyor General in his report, as will be seen, puts this down as 16,229*l.*, while the Treasurer shows the collection during the year to have been but 11,144*l.* 17*s.* 11½*d.*

10. I have examined into this discrepancy, and find that the Surveyor General must have fallen into some error, for he has overstated the rent roll, which stood at the close of 1855, and still stands, at exactly 14,779*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*, while the difference between this sum and the amount actually collected may be probably accounted for by casual arrears, and the collection of a portion of the rents between Christmas of 1854 and the new year of 1855, the same strict measures for the collection of a correspondent sum not having been taken during the final week of 1855.

11. The net increase on the rent roll during the year, subtracting reductions, &c., is 3,528*l.* 17*s.* 5½*d.*

12. Akin to the rent roll revenue, as connected with land, is the large amount received as premium on the various lots exposed to public auction. This has been most remarkable in 1855. The number of land sales was nine, and the premia realized amounted to 15,720*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, nearly half of which was derived from six valuable marine lots sold on 16th November last.

13. Of the other items of revenue those requiring any special notice are the opium and spirit licences, which show, especially the former, some increase, owing to the increased population, and to the same cause may be traced a similar increase under police assessment and fees of office.

14. On expenditure little comment is required, but it must not be lost sight of, that while the revenue rises with the colony so must the expenses, and the increase under this head of 6,178*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* is attributable to public works, mainly, and to the necessarily increased police force, besides some additions to the now underhanded and always underpaid departments of government.

15. Of public works the most important is Government House, which was completed for your Excellency's reception on the first October last, and cost, up to 31st December 1855 the sum of 15,318*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* Throughout the city of Victoria, culverts and side channels have been industriously proceeded with, and a great improvement in these respects has been effected. During the latter part of the year the erection of tanks for water for general purposes and in case of fire has engaged the Surveyor General.

16. I observe that the Surveyor General has noticed the irregular burials, and damage done to young trees by the Chinese, and I have to say that almost weekly I have called the attention of the Superintendent of Police to these offences, and I hope at last with some little effect; but these nuisances, with a large Chinese population and a very inefficient police, are most difficult of suppression.

17. The principal subjects into which the ordinances and notifications of the year have been connected are Chinese emigration, the administration of justice, and the registration of ships.

18 This port has become concerned largely in Chinese emigration, the returns showing that 14,683 left during the year, and this business is, I believe, on the increase. The emigration officer is useful and necessary, but it is to be hoped that as soon as circumstances permit the appointment will be transferred to an assistant harbour master, as a far more convenient and suitable arrangement.

19. The ordinances for the administration of justice are adaptations of the law reforms introduced into the mother country.

20. The imperial act to amend and consolidate the laws regulating merchant ships and seamen, known as "The Merchant Shipping Act, 1854," came into operation on 1st May 1855, and some notifications regarding it have been issued in the Gazette, while an ordinance, No. 4. of 1855, establishes a registry for colonial vessels.

21. Of the councils it is only necessary to say that their reconstruction is under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

22. The police is notoriously inefficient for the purpose of prevention of offences and nuisances, but seems to answer its end as regards the protection of property by night. The whole system is under revision.

23. On the currency your Excellency has already addressed the Secretary of State.

24. Sir John Davis, in noticing the Blue Book for 1845, attached some importance to the establishment of foreign consulates here, and it will be seen that all the commercial countries of importance are now represented by consuls or other consular officers at this port.

25. I have already remarked on the absence of a custom house, and on the consequent impossibility of furnishing accurate returns of imports and exports, but the Harbour Master's tables will give valuable information on this head. It must not, however, be supposed that either the imports are consumed in the colony or the exports its production.

26. From the very nature of the island of Hong Kong little is to be said of its agriculture, and as little of its manufactures in the serious sense of the word. The fisheries are more noticeable, upwards of 1,100 boats belonging to the colony being engaged therein, and the outlying villages, such as Stanley and Aberdeen, being largely employed in drying and curing the produce.

27. Crime of the more serious kind is rare in comparison with the population, but larcenies and petty offences occupy much time before the magistrates court.

28. Piracy, the chief hindrance to the prosperity of the colony, has been repeatedly reported on to the Home Government, and it is to be earnestly hoped that some effective decision may be speedily arrived at.

29. The gaol is fortunately situated in a very healthy part of the town, but as the inhabitants of Victoria have increased so have the smaller classes of crimes, and consequently the prisoners in confinement. It will be absolutely necessary, and that without delay, to extend the gaol buildings, and provide further accommodation on the ground reserved southward of the present premises. The lengthened illness and subsequent death of the gaoler has caused some little confusion in this department, but improvement is now apparent.

30. From the shipping report another and very fair proof of the favourable position of the colony may be gathered. Whereas in 1854 the number of vessels anchored in the harbour was 1,100 with a tonnage of 443,554, in 1855 the returns show 1,736 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 604,580. This gives a large increase of tonnage, and a comparatively large increase of ships, from which results, if statistics, or I should say if these statistics, are to be relied on, I would draw this inference, that the average of a ship being, in 1854, 50 tons over the average ship in 1855, the increase has been in the smaller vessels, that is, in those employed in the coasting trade, which trade is the life and strength of the colony.

31. On the subject of education, with special reference to the present and future provision of interpreters, your Excellency some time back appointed a commission of inquiry. This being a question so purely of personal and individual opinion has considerably embarrassed the commission in forming a conclusion, but I trust that a report may be shortly presented. In the meantime I may not be out of place in noting that negotiations are on foot for regaining the valuable assistance of Mr. Caldwell, whose secession from the service was attributable to no act of the Colonial Government.

32. In the month of November the Government, after full and mature reflection, published its project of a praya on the sea front of the city, and I remark this as one of the important events of the past year, and the introduction of a great future improvement and much benefit in many ways to the colony.

33. Another useful project was a new carriage road to Stanley, but this has been abandoned for the time, as the estimated outlay exceeded 6,000*l.*, a sum too large to be borne by the colony, now deprived, as it is this year for the first time, of all assistance by parliamentary grant.

34. There is one all important subject for which I may observe no provision seems to be made in the headings officially furnished for the compilation of the Blue Book, but which cannot be, and I think never has been, passed over in this document. I refer to the subject of health, which is introduced in the annual report of the colonial surgeon.

35. In that report I have not much to notice, save that the colonial surgeon seems to be unaware that much has been done during the past year to improve the sanitary condition of the city. Tanks to ensure a proper supply of water are nearly completed, Captain Cowper is engaged in a thorough revision of the sewerage and drainage, and an ordinance to regulate buildings and suppress nuisances has recently passed the legislative council.

36. Another ordinance on the subject of health has been referred to the Home Government, and this important matter is receiving every attention.

37. It is satisfactory to find that, notwithstanding the large increase of the population, the past year is pronounced very healthy for foreigners, and I do not find that the colonial surgeon states it to have been more fatal than its predecessors to the Chinese inhabitants; and on communication with the superintendent of police I am confirmed in my belief that there has been no special mortality beyond what increased population will account for; and, further, that this city is not considered by the Chinese more inimical to health than the towns of the main land.

38. The civil hospital should be enlarged, and measures to effect this are in course of adoption.

39. There is one point that I wish to take this special opportunity of bringing to your Excellency's notice. The numerical strength, construction, and several duties of the Government departments.

40. The Colonial Secretary's office should be relieved of various duties accidentally but unavoidably imposed upon it. The harbour master should act as registrar of shipping, and should perform the various details required in other places from the regular custom house officer, such as giving certificates of the landing of goods, &c. which have been required during the war, and are given by the colonial secretary on the oath of those applying.

41. The emigration business I have already suggested should go to an assistant harbour master, an officer who would relieve the harbour master of certain of his duties.

42. There seems to be some lack of knowledge in the harbour master's department of the shipping in the harbour and the particulars connected with them.

43. The Treasury and Audit Office should be relieved from all care of and control over the monies and financial concerns of the superintendency and consulates.

44. The shrievalty should be severed from the magistracy, and a different arrangement made for the performance of the duties of coroner.

45. The gaol staff requires reorganization, and the immediate head of that establishment should be of a higher class than gaoler, say one officer with the customary title of governor of the gaol, and emoluments according.

46. But these propositions and some other similar have, if I recollect rightly, been already made, and will receive every attention from your Excellency and the Home Government.

47. One subject more occurs to me, and that is the position of the servants of government as to pay and retiring pension.

48. With more inducement in the form of either, and especially the latter, I am of opinion that the departments might be better served.

49. The pay is a matter of colonial consideration, and a question here of ways and means, but the pension concerns the Imperial Government, and I remark that in all acts and regulations on the subject of superannuation the colonial service of Hong Kong, where the health of the government officers is comparatively exposed to much danger, and where the casualties among them have been so many and so fatal, is placed on no better footing than the service at home, in the possession of a bracing and temperate climate, surrounded by every luxury and every convenience for the prolongation and enjoyment of life.

50. I foresee in the course of the current year several changes in the various offices of government, and upon the future efficiency of the service; even the promise that this subject shall receive consideration from Her Majesty's Government will have a beneficial effect.

51. I would notice another point before concluding.

52. I have said that the expenses of the colony will rise with its prosperity; I add that the increased revenue will not suffice for the many improvements advisable.

HONG KONG.

53. The grant from parliament is no longer available, and it becomes a question whether the necessary improvements are to be set aside for years, or whether some means of carrying them out may not be devised.

54. In consideration of the many expenses incurred by the colony on account of the general trade with China, from which the mother country reaps so abundant a harvest, may we not justly receive some favour in compensation for the loss of the grant.

55. A suggestion was once made that the Home Government should impose a differential duty of, say, 1*d.* a pound on teas shipped for England from Hong Kong (see a letter written by Mr. J. R. Morrison under instructions from Captain Elliot, dated Macao, 28th June 1841). If this measure were adopted, the result needs no demonstration.

56. I take the liberty of bringing the point once more forward, and of submitting it to the consideration of your Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Sir John Bowring, Knight, LL.D., Governor,
&c. &c. &c.

LABUAN.

LABUAN.

No. 45.

No. 45.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Officer Administering the Government to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 7.) Government Offices, Labuan,
June 26, 1856.
(Received August 30, 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book returns of this Settlement for the year 1855.

I regret that the revenue of the colony fell considerably short of the sum estimated at the beginning of the year: it was also less by 740*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* than the sum collected in 1854. The deficiency is entirely attributable to the failure of the Eastern Archipelago Company to carry out the anticipation of its agents of exporting 15,000 tons of coal, 1,399 tons only having been shipped in the twelve months.

See Comparative Statement enclosed.

The expenditure of the settlement exhibits, as compared with that of 1854, a decrease of 891*l.* 1*s.* 0½*d.* The diminution will be found to be under the heads of public works and roads.

The population of the island has increased during the year by 380 persons, of whom, I am happy to say, 44 are females, a much larger proportion to the other sex than has hitherto been perceived amongst the immigrants.

Though mild forms of fever and of ague have been prevalent, and a more dangerous remittent fever is apt to attack new comers, the general health of the settlement has more than sustained the improved average of recent years. The total number of deaths in 1855 was 26, being 1 in 60 of the population, and of this number 6 only were from fever.

The returns of trade, I regret to state, show a falling off in the amount of exports to the very considerable sum of 7,442*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*, as compared with the preceding year. This is to be accounted for by the greater prevalence of piracy on all sides of the settlement, but particularly to the northward and in the Sooloo seas, and to the bad government of the kingdom of Borneo, the rajahs of which country made, during the period under consideration, many successful attempts at monopolizing the produce of the various rivers, and exchanging it for British manufactures in the capital of Borneo, the trade of which town is now very considerable, and owes its existence entirely to the protection afforded to British interests by the neighbourhood of this colony.

A report that the settlement was about to be attacked by Sooloo, Illanun, and Balanini pirates, based upon the appearance of some boats from Sooloo

upon the coast to the north of us, was very generally credited in the month of July, and the island being entirely without fortifications or naval protection, and the barracks of the troops being at too great a distance, a stockade of posts and sand bags for the defence of the town was rapidly erected and armed with three guns, and other necessary precautions taken. The Sooloo boats, however, returned to their country without molesting us.

The excess of expenditure over receipts was provided for from the unspent balance of Parliamentary grants of former years.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH LOW,
Administering the Government.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 45.

Encl. in No. 45.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the ESTIMATED REVENUE of LABUAN for the Year 1855, and the REVENUE received in that year, as shown by the Accounts made up from 1st January to 31st December 1855.

	Estimated Revenue.			Revenue Received.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Land Sales:						
Premium on leases for the year—						
Town - -		—			—	
Country - -	25	2	11	34	7	3½
Ditto, in arrears—						
Town - -		—			—	
Country - -	9	17	1	2	10	0
Land Revenue:						
Quit rent for the year—						
Town - -		—			—	
Country - -	19	5	0	12	7	7½
Ditto, in arrears—						
Town - -		—			—	
Country - -	9	14	3	2	6	0½
Rent of land and mines to Eastern Archipelago Company - - - - -	240	0	0	120	0	0
Transfer and registration duties:						
Registration of grants - - -	-	-	-	0	8	4
Transfer of ditto - - -		—			—	
Auction Duties - - - -		—			—	
Licences, farmed out:						
Spirituous liquors - - -	450	0	0	450	0	0
Opium - - - -	850	0	0	850	0	0
Ganja - - - -	45	0	0	45	0	0
Postage - - - -	10	0	0	8	3	9
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court:						
General Court - - - -	50	0	0	44	4	9½
Police - - - -	100	0	0	56	14	5½
Magistrates - - - - -	-	-	-	6	5	0
Fees of office - - - -		—			—	
Sale of Government property - - -	3	0	0	4	11	4½
Reimbursements in aid - - -	-	-	-	1	8	1½
Miscellaneous receipts - - - -	-	-	-	1	9	8
Special receipts:						
Royalty on Coals - - -	1,750	0	0	154	10	1½
Total - - £	3,562	0	0	1,794	6	7

LABUAN.

Comparative Statement of the Estimated Expenditure of Labuan for the Year 1855, and the Actual Expenditure of the Year, as taken from the Accounts made up from 1st January to 31st December 1855.

	Estimated Expenditure.			Actual Expenditure.		
Civil Establishments:	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Lieutenant Governor	1,045	0	0	978	6	8
Treasurer	640	0	0	598	6	8
Surveyor General	300	0	0	266	13	4
Surgeon	507	0	0	497	6	3
Harbour and Post Master	245	0	0	245	0	0
Police	300	0	0	305	16	4½
Judicial	55	0	0	—		
Allowances and General Office Contingencies	89	0	0	66	19	4
	3,181	0	0	2,958	8	7½
Pensions, Retired Allowances, and Gratuities	—			—		
Revenue Services	—			—		
Administration of Justice	—			1	13	4
Ecclesiastical	—			—		
Charitable Allowances	—			—		
Education	—			—		
Hospitals	20	0	0	0	11	6
Police and Gaols	143	0	0	86	12	10
Rent	—			—		
Transport	—			—		
Conveyance of Mails	4	0	0	1	11	5
Works and Buildings	174	0	0	158	0	4½
Roads, Streets, and Bridges	—			49	2	10½
Miscellaneous Services	40	0	0	39	17	3
Interest	—			—		
Total £	3,562	0	0	3,295	18	2½

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 46.

No. 46.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Moore to the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart.

(No. 6.)

Government House, Stanley, Falkland Islands, January 16, 1856.

(Received 10 March 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honour herewith to forward the Blue Book of this colony for the past year, together with a report addressed to me by the acting colonial secretary, Mr. Longden, showing the advantages which have already resulted to our merchant shipping from the foundation and maintenance of a settlement in these islands.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. E. L. MOORE.

The Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 46.

REPORT from J. R. LONGDEN, Esq., Acting Secretary, to Governor MOORE.

Government Office, Stanley, Falkland Islands,
January 9, 1856.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Excellency the Blue Book of this colony for the year 1855, and in compliance with your desire I take this opportunity of adding a few remarks, which may serve to show that the exertions and expense incurred by Her Majesty's Government in finding and maintaining this settlement have already produced the most beneficial results.

2. For many years the Falkland Islands have been continually pointed out as the only favourable station for the relief of our shipping in these seas, but it is only within the last few years (since the seat of Government was removed from Berkeley Sound to this harbour), that merchant vessels have in any number availed themselves of the advantages here offered them.

3. The settlement of Stanley was founded in 1844, and since that period has gradually increased, but the number of its inhabitants (which does not as yet reach 500), bears no comparison with the trade which is now carried on with the various ships which call from all parts of the world. The supplies and assistance thus collected in the settlement are annually the means of relieving many ships from very great distress, and in several cases of preserving the lives of passengers and crews. Lest this latter assertion should seem too bold, I adduce the following instances, which, during a continued residence of twelve years in the service of the Colonial Government, have fallen within my personal knowledge.

4. Eleven merchant vessels bound to various parts of the world (not intending to touch at these islands) have been totally wrecked on our shores, the crews of which, without the assistance they derived from the settlement, would soon have been abandoned to misery and starvation. The crews of two ships, which foundered at sea near Cape Horn, reached Stanley, after much suffering, in open boats. Two vessels arrived here on fire; and at least eight others have put in here in the last extremity of distress; some with all the crew sick; in other cases the ship so leaky that the crew were unable alone any longer to keep her free, and in other cases without provision or water. The majority of these vessels were English, and the aggregate number of their passengers and crews exceeded four hundred. I have not swollen out this list with the account of any coasting or sealing vessels, as their occupation inevitably leads them into danger, and would probably have been carried on whether the settlement existed or not. Nor have I included such cases as those of the "Henrietta" and "Pilgrim," two British ships which foundered off Cape Horn, and their crews (forty-three in number) were rescued, the one by a Danish the other by a Lubeck brig. In each case the rescued seamen outnumbered the crew of the foreign vessel, which was accordingly obliged to put back to this port and land them, neither vessel having on board provisions or water to carry them further.

5. I would also draw your Excellency's attention to the amount of property saved from absolute loss during the same period. In many cases the more valuable portions of the cargoes of ships which have arrived here and been unable to proceed on their voyage, as expensive machinery, manufactured goods, copper ore, &c., have been collected, warehoused, and subsequently reshipped to their original destination; while the amount shown by the various auction sales to have been realized in the colony for the benefit of owners and insurers (in cases where it was not practicable to forward the goods) has already exceeded twenty-one thousand pounds. Had there been no British settlement here the whole of this property must have been sacrificed; and if the establishment here were at any time withdrawn, the numerous secluded inlets and harbours round the shores would in all probability become the resort of men who might with impunity plunder every vessel wrecked or stranded in these parts.

7. Your Excellency's own experience of the navigation of these seas will, I am sure, enable you to appreciate to their full extent the advantages which a visit to this settlement offers to merchant vessels generally, especially to such as are deeply laden and short handed, and after a long voyage arrive in the neigh-

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bourhood of Cape Horn leaky, and their crews exhausted with fatigue. Already in many such cases a short rest in this harbour has been the means of preserving both life and property.

8. The following table, extracted from a register that I have kept for the last twelve years, will show that shipmasters have latterly more and more frequented the port. The falling off in the last year or two is, I believe, attributable to the war, which has diverted so many steamers and sailing vessels from their former trade with Australia and the West Coast of America.

TABLE OF SHIPS which called at Stanley in the Twelve Years ending 1855.

Year.	Total number of Vessels.	Registered Tonnage in tons.	Number which were British.
1844	15	5,131	10
1845	21	6,121	16
1846	25	7,902	19
1847	24	6,316	5
1848	28	11,704	12
1849	29	9,005	12
1850	37	13,672	23
1851	50	17,538	32
1852	62	22,024	46
1853	60	25,186	42
1854	55	23,728	37
1855	53	19,793	40

9. Although the internal development of the colony can only be considered of importance so far as it conduces to the more efficient fulfilment of the objects originally contemplated in its establishment, your Excellency will probably view with interest the progress which has been made since your visit in 1848. The security for a constant supply of fresh meat which is now afforded by the long walls enclosing the land near Stanley, the cultivation of a considerable quantity of garden ground furnishing a tolerably constant supply of vegetables, and the construction of a reservoir for the more convenient watering of ships, are improvements of considerable importance The establishment of Cape Pembroke Lighthouse will of course aid materially any ship endeavouring by night or day to make the port, but its utility will have a wider range, and be appreciated by all ships passing the islands whether they call or not.

10. The great work which is still needed to meet the requirements of the port as a harbour of refuge is either the Patent Slip, which has been so often urged on the attention of Her Majesty's Government, or an adaptation of the natural facilities of the harbour to a dock, which would enable a ship at any time to be examined and her defects fully repaired without the delay, risk, and expense which must otherwise be encountered.

11. Although the foundation and maintenance of a settlement in these islands has cost a considerable sum, and must annually occasion a demand for some assistance from the British Treasury, the facts I have cited may serve to prove that the expenditure has not been barren of results already. And while the aid voted by Parliament has been annually diminished until it is now less than one half of the grant in former years, the benefits derived by our mercantile shipping have constantly augmented, and will probably continue to do so, for there is no other port within 1,000 miles of Stanley even now, which presents so many advantages with so few objections.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. R. LONGDEN,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Governor Moore,
&c. &c. &c.

PART VI.

MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS.

MALTA.

No. 47.

PART VI.—MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS.

MALTA.

No. 47.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir WILLIAM REID to Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 45.)

Palace, Valetta, May 19, 1856.

SIR, (Received, May 26, 1856.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of Malta for the Year 1855, together with my Report, and a copy of a statement by the Auditor General upon the revenue, expenditure, and financial condition of the island during that year.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. (Signed) WILLIAM REID.

EXTRACT of REPORT, to accompany the MALTA BLUE BOOK, 1855.

Trial by Jury.

Trial by jury in criminal cases was introduced in 1829, and I am told its success was for some time doubtful, but it is now working satisfactorily, and no doubt is producing a very beneficial, although indirect, result, by training the Maltese for the management of other public matters.

Free press.

Freedom in printing and publishing, granted in 1838, is now also, like trial by jury, producing a very beneficial result. If liberty be correctly defined as "security against wrong," the Maltese are in possession of liberty, civil and political. With the press free, and with a portion of the Council elective, all wrongs can be and are exposed. There is security against the abuse of power. The success of the present form given to the government of Malta, like every other scheme of government, must mainly depend on the discretion shown in carrying it out, and on the forbearance of the people on whom privileges are conferred. Perhaps there is no truth so constantly enounced yet so frequently forgotten, as that free institutions, to be lasting, are the growth of time. In order that the wishes of the people may be more easily learnt, several consultative boards and committees were established in 1852–3, the senior members of which go out in rotation at the end of each year.

Quarantine.

The system of quarantine at Malta may now be said to be nearly the same as in England. The lazzaretto is maintained, and occasionally used, but all vexatious restrictions have ceased to be imposed. Steam navigation has rendered the execution of the old quarantine system impossible. Unfortunately, Mediterranean governments have so trained their people to dread contagion that they now find it very difficult to confine sanitary restrictions within reasonable limits.

Revenue.

At present in Malta there is neither debt nor surplus revenue, the surplus being all, or very nearly all, appropriated.

24th April 1856. The annexed is a statement of the revenue from 1838, the period when new tariffs were introduced in consequence of the recommendation of the Commissioners of Inquiry. The average annual amount for the last eighteen years, in pounds sterling, is about equal to the number of the inhabitants.

REVIEW of the GROSS REVENUE of MALTA since the formation of the NEW TARIFFS at the end of the Year 1837.

YEARS.	Government Revenue.	Separate or Municipal Revenue.	TOTAL REVENUE.	REMARKS.
	£	£	£	
1838	111,352	8,000	119,352	During these seven years the separate receipts were not completely accounted for; the yearly rate of 8,000*l.* is therefore assumed, judging from the average of the next four years.
1839	106,114	8,000	114,114	
1840	96,928	8,000	104,928	
1841	121,499	8,000	129,499	
1842	120,852	8,000	128,852	
1843	109,638	8,000	117,638	
1844	116,471	8,000	124,471	
1845	102,304	7,579	109,883	The average of the separate receipts is 8,077*l.* for these four years.
1846	103,172	7,505	110,677	
1847	108,424	8,420	116,844	
1848	117,208	8,805	126,013	
1849	-	-	126,298	From the 1st January 1849 the separate receipts have been paid into the Government Treasury, and incorporated with the general revenues.
1850	-	-	129,293	
1851	-	-	133,080	
1852	-	-	127,729	
1853	-	-	123,305	
1854	-	-	123,772	
1855	-	-	126,738	
Average of the 18 years		£	121,805	from every source.

Average of the three years —

1838–1840	£112,798
1841–1843	125,330
1844–1846	115,010
1847–1849	123,052
1850–1852	130,034
1853–1855	124,605

(Signed WM. HY. THORNTON,
Auditor General.

Valetta, 24th April 1856.

The AUDITOR GENERAL'S STATEMENT of the Financial Condition of Malta, to accompany the Blue Book for the Year 1855.

The following view is offered of the gross revenue of Malta received during the five years immediately preceding the one to which the present statement relates:—

1850	£129,293	Yearly average, £127,436.
1851	133,080	
1852	127,728	
1853	123,305	
1854	123,771	
Fractions	2	

Revenue.

2. During the year 1855 the gross collection of revenue amounted to 126,738*l.*, being 698*l.* below the before stated average; but, as compared with the two years immediately preceding, a material improvement, or rather recovery, will be seen; still more so, if the details of collection be analysed, when it will be found that the year 1855 has scarcely benefited from extraordinary resources, unlike the other two years, which were largely aided in this way, as is shown in the following comparison:—

	1853.	1854.	1855.
Land sales	£1,879	£3,789	£371
Sale of Government property	270	2,205	183
Incidental receipts	51	1,022	76
	£2,200	£7,016	£630

MALTA.

3. Hence it may be affirmed that the receipts of the year have fully answered every reasonable expectation. The chief source of improvement is the customs, wherein, although the continued dearness of provisions has tended to diminish the introduction of consumable articles subject to import duty, the extended local traffic derived from the passage of troops and stores to and from the seat of the war, and from other operations connected with this state of affairs, has so far enriched the place as to have enabled the inhabitants, taken as a body, to purchase as large a quantity of those consumable articles as they had the means of procuring in cheap times with lesser earnings, but, taken individually, it will be found that many, who depend entirely on a scanty income, unvarying through seasons of cheapness and dearth, have been severe sufferers from the long-continued high prices. These have been brought on, not only by those causes which influence the surrounding countries generally, but are particularly aggravated here by the demands of an increased garrison and number of shipping, and for the supply of the eastern army. Combinations for monopoly are by many believed to have enhanced the market prices, but, except in regard to the article of charcoal, I do not join in this belief. The tonnage dues have been increased by the greater number of vessels discharging coals for the use of the steamers, it being only on discharging merchandise that sailing vessels become subject to the dues.

4. Of the rents of the Government houses, other buildings and lands, the collection has been made without a single abatement. The judicial receipts have suffered a diminution, as compared with the collection of 1854, of 1,180*l.* How far this difference may depend on less business in the courts, or on new tables of fees in force from the 1st August 1855, cannot be shown.

Expenditure.

5. In the general estimate of expenditure, prepared in 1854, for the service of the year 1855, a provision of 126,642*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* was made. To this was added a balance of 16,930*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* remaining unexpended at the end of 1854 from the provision of previous estimates, and in the course of 1855 supplemental appropriations were made to the amount of 2,236*l.* 3*s.* 5¾*d.* In all, 145,808*l.* 17*s.* 6¾*d.* at disposal for expenditure.

6. The total sum actually disbursed within the year out of this provision was 127,004*l.* 17*s.* 2½*d.* (being 14,298*l.* 18*s.* 7½*d.* less than the outlay of the previous year), 2,590*l.* 9*s.* 1¾*d.* have been written off as unavailed of or saved, and 16,213*l.* 11*s.* 2½*d.* remain for future outlay.

7. The year closed with the following state and liabilities of the inland treasury :—

State of the treasury of Malta, 31st December 1855.

		£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Effects - -	cash -	81,918	1	0½	84,713	3	1
	advances -	2,795	2	0½			
Debts - -	deposits -	-		-	54,710	12	5½
				Surplus capital -	30,002	10	7½
Liabilities :—							
The revenue of December, reserved to meet the expenditure of that month payable in January 1855 - -		9,525	0	9½			
The portion of expenditure remaining undefrayed, as already stated -		16,213	11	2½			
					25,738	12	0
				Available surplus	£4,263	18	7½

Audit Office, Valetta, April 12, 1856.

(Signed) W. H. Thornton, Auditor General.

IONIAN ISLANDS.

No. 48.

No. 48.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Sir John Young, Bart., to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

(No. 37.)

Corfu, July 1, 1856.
(Received July 23, 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to you, herewith enclosed, the annual financial statement, called the Blue Book for the year 1855, together with the accompanying report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN YOUNG.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

Report on the Blue Book for the financial year ending the 31st January 1856.

Revenue.

The gross amount of the revenue in 1854 was		£137,978
„	„ in 1855 „	127,471
Showing a decrease in 1855 of	-	£ 10,507

The items of general revenue showing a decrease are—

Customs—Export duty on oil (olive).
„ Import duty on tobacco.
„ „ grain.
Stamp duties.
Gunpowder monopoly.
Health office dues.
Judicial tariffs.
Mortgage, &c. dues.
Printing office receipts.
Freights of Government steam packets.
Public instruction.

The customs shows a decrease of 1,378*l.*, in consequence of the continued high price of provisions, and the distress felt in the islands by the failure of crops.

The export duty on oil shows a diminution of 12,121*l.*, in consequence of short crops.

The loss on the import duty on tobacco, 475*l.*, arises apparently from diminished consumption, in consequence of the prevailing distress.

That on grain imported, viz., 1,736*l.*, by a great increase in price in consequence of the war with Russia having closed the ports of the Black Sea.

The decrease of revenue in the stamp duties, 1,294*l.*, is to be attributed to the prevailing distress of the population from failure of crops; and that arising from the sale of gunpowder, 20*l.*, to the same reason.

The loss in health office dues, 154*l.*, is mainly owing to the cholera which prevailed here last autumn, and which prevented vessels from arriving here, as they would then have been subjected, in foreign parts, to quarantine upon leaving.

IONIAN ISLANDS.

The decrease in judicial police dues, 118*l.*, may be likewise attributed to the same cause, as less passports were issued and fewer legal processes served in consequence of the prevailing epidemic.

The items mortgage dues and printing office receipts, which show a collective decrease of 73*l.*, is a casualty arising from a similar cause.

The decrease in the amount of freights received by Government steam packets, 574*l.*, is in consequence of the Ionian steamers having nearly ceased to run between the islands.

And that under the head of public instruction, 362*l.*, arises from a smaller number of students, and the closing of the schools during the cholera.

The items of general revenue showing an increase are as follows:—

Export duty on currants.
„ island wines.
Import duty, foreign wines and spirits.
Post office dues.
Executive police fees.
Custom house warehouse rents, &c.
Miscellaneous.

The increase of currant duties, amounting to 4,409*l.*, is to be attributed to a partial abatement of the blight in Cephalonia, and an improvement in the price.

An increase of 221*l.* in the export duty received on island wines is in consequence of greater exportation having been made this year to Italian ports in the Adriatic.

The increase of 329*l.* observable in the item import duties on foreign wines and spirits, was in consequence of an augmentation of garrison having caused greater consumption.

That in the items post office dues and executive police fees, amounting together to 195*l.*, may be attributed to an increased letter correspondence, and greater attention on the part of the police in levying its fees.

The increase in the amount of warehouse rents (dogana), 72*l.*, is in consequence of greater deposits having been made this year than last in the Porto Franco stores.

Under the head of miscellaneous an increase of 2,572*l.* appears. This increase is in consequence of a deduction of ten per cent. from salaries in aid of revenue, produce of labour at the Penitentiary, and the sale of Ionian packet stores.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year 1854 amounted to	£139,511
That of 1855 to - - - -	140,240
Showing a balance of -	733

The items under which an increased rate of expenditure appears this year over the last are these:

Legislative Assembly.
Health office.
Lighthouse and lazzaretto contingencies, and the contingent expenditure of the general and local governments.

The increase in the item Legislative Assembly, 2,441*l.*, was caused by the expenses attendant on a meeting of Parliament having been called to complete the session prorogued in 1854.

The 113*l.*, under the head of health office contingencies, &c., by the cholera, which broke out in the islands.

And the increased expenditure, 3,387*l.*, which appears in the item contingent expenditure of the general and local governments, was caused by the extinction by Government of litigated claims, interest on loans and deposits, and contingent expenses incurred in the islands in consequence of the cholera visitation.

The items in which a decrease appears are the following :—

Civil establishment.
Judicial establishment.
Education.
Rents of public offices.
Public works.
Packet service, coals, &c.
Collection of revenue, and purchase of stamped paper.
Post-office contingencies.
Executive police ditto, and those of the courts of justice.

The decrease of expenditure under the head of civil establishment is caused by the reduction of salaries and modifications in the senate, custom house, police, health office, and packet establishments, and lapsed pensions during the year, amounting together to 612*l.*

That under the head of judicial establishment, 545*l.*, from the cessation of seven additional judges, the district courts established in 1852 having been abolished.

The decrease under that of education, 685*l.*, may be accounted for by the modification made in the salaries of village schoolmasters in September 1854.

The decrease in the item rents of public offices, &c., 50*l.*, may be attributed to the transfer of the law courts in Zante to a house purchased by the Government.

That under the head of public works, 560*l.*, to the discontinuance of the steam dredger in the port of Zante.

The decrease in the item packet service, coals, repairs, &c., amounting to 1,788*l.*, to the cessation of traffic and the resale of stock of coals on hand.

That under the head of collection of revenue, and purchase of paper for stamps, 496*l.*, to less paper being purchased this year than last.

The decrease under the several heads of post office contingencies, executive police, and tribunal contingencies, to casualties for which no specific reason can be given.

Local Revenue.

The local revenue of the islands for the year 1854 amounted to 32,188*l.*, whereas that of 1855 was only 29,057*l.*, showing a decrease of 3,131*l.*

The items showing a decreased local revenue in the present year are the following :—

Land revenue.
Sale of lands and houses.
Arm licences.
Shop, tavern, and other licences.
Fines and confiscations.
Port duties.
Water rates, Corfu and Zante.
Export duty on Zante soap.
The seventh of general import duties and road imposts.
The decrease in the first item, 1,016*l.*, to failure of crops.
Sale of lands and houses, 20*l.*, to a casualty.

The decrease of 255*l.* in the items arms licences, shop, tavern, and other licences, to the non-renewal of these licences in consequence of prevailing distress.

That under the head of fines and confiscations, 88*l.*, to a casualty over which the Government has no control.

The decrease in the amount of port dues collected, 374*l.*, may be accounted for by many Ionian vessels having returned in 1854 to their national flag, in consequence of the disturbances in the East.

The 296*l.* decrease in the item water rates, Corfu and Zante, to the resumption of payment of rates by the Ordnance Department in Corfu, and arrears in 1854.

That under the head of export duty on Zante soap, 516*l.*, to there having been no olive crop in that island this year.

The decrease in that portion of the general revenue set aside for municipal purposes, viz., one seventh, which amounted to 144*l.*, is to be attributed to a falling off in the general receipt of customs duties, in continuation from last

year, in consequence of general distress throughout the islands from failure of crops and cholera visitation.

The decrease under the head of roads imposts, amounting to 1,367*l.*, has been influenced by the exportation of less produce, the principal imposts being an ad valorem duty of 1½ per cent.

The items of local revenue showing an increased rate are these :—

Salines and salt monopoly.
Mole duty, Santa Maura.
Inter-island duty on native wines.
Import duty on cattle.
Export duty on Corfu valonea, &c.
Incidentals.

The increase of 727*l.* in the amount collected under the head of salines and salt monopoly was caused by greater exportation from Santa Maura.

The 8*l.* increase in the mole duty collected at Santa Maura may probably be attributed to the same cause.

The increase in the item inter-island duty on native wines, 69*l.*, is to be attributed to the partial failure of the vintage in Corfu, requiring for consumption supplies from the other islands.

The increase of 31*l.* in the import duty paid on cattle to the increase of garrison.

The 8*l.* increase of export duty on Corfu valonea to a casualty, and the increase of 103*l.* under head of incidentals to a temporary stoppage of 10 per cent. on salaries, in aid of revenue, operative from 1st July 1854.

Military Contribution.

The military contribution of 25,000*l.* per annum has been duly paid for 1855.

Judicial Establishment.

The reduction of seven judges, district courts having been abolished.

Ecclesiastical.

There has been no alteration made during the year in the ecclesiastical establishment.

Commerce.

The late war with Russia, continued failure of crops, and consequent distress of the population in general, has been the cause of an apparent lull in commercial operations in these states; but the prospect of a good currant harvest in 1856 has already made things look brighter, and its wonted activity no doubt will soon be resumed.

Agriculture.

It is to be hoped that considerable improvement will shortly be made in this most useful branch of industry, from the bias given in that direction to the Government and population generally by the advice and suggestion of his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner. Agricultural shows have been promoted at Corfu, and it is under contemplation to extend these benefits to the other islands; and plans have been submitted and entertained for draining and irrigating considerable tracts of land, which are now either totally unproductive or not near as productive as they should be. In both cases his Excellency has instituted careful examination, and visited the localities in person, sparing neither time nor labour in order to arrive at desirable results.

Population.

There appears to be a considerable increase of deaths over births during this year, in consequence of the cholera having broken out in Corfu, Cephalonia, and Zante during the autumn; but the decrease in the total number of inhabitants in the islands, as shown by the population return of this year and that of 1854, is only 1,413.

POPULATION.
In 1854, 241,493.
In 1855, 240,080.

EDWARD FREDERICK BARR,
Assistant Secretary to the Lord High Commissioner.

Palace, Corfu, June 20, 1856.

LONDON:
Printed by George E. Eyre and William Spottiswoode,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

CANADA.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 19 February 1857;—*for*,

"EXTRACT of so much of the ROYAL COMMISSION of the Governor-General of *Canada* as defines the Boundaries of that Province."

Colonial Office,
12 March 1857.

H. LABOUCHERE.

SCHEDULE.

No. 1.—Extract from Instructions to James Murray, Esq., as Governor of Quebec, dated 7th December 1763.

No. 2.—Extract from Letters Patent appointing the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine to be Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of Canada, dated 1st October 1846.

No. 3.—Extract from Commission appointing Sir Edmund Head, Bart., to be Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of Canada, dated 20th September 1854.

No. 1.

EXTRACT from Royal Instructions to *James Murray*, Esq., as Governor of *Quebec*; dated 7th December 1763.

"WITH these Our instructions you will receive Our Commission, under Our Great Seal of Great Britain, constituting you Our Captain General and Governor-in-Chief in and over Our province of Quebec, in America, bounded on the Labrador coast by the River St. John, and from thence by a line drawn from the head of that river through the Lake St. John to the south end of the Lake Nipissin, from whence the said line, crossing the River St. Lawrence and the Lake Champlain, in 45 degrees of north latitude, passes along the high lands which divide the rivers that empty themselves into the said River St. Lawrence from those which fall into the sea, and also along the north coast of the Baye des Chaleurs and the coast of the Gulf of St. Lawrence to Cape Rosieres, and from thence, crossing the mouth of the River St. Lawrence by the west end of the Island of Anticosti, terminates at the aforesaid River of St. John."

No. 2.

EXTRACT from Letters Patent, appointing the Earl of *Elgin* and *Kincardine* to be Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of *Canada*; dated 1st October 1846.

"And further know you that We, reposing especial trust and confidence in the prudence, courage, and loyalty of you, the said Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, of Our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have thought fit to constitute and appoint you, the said Earl of Elgin and Kincardine to be,

 during

during Our pleasure, Our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over Our said province of Canada, comprising Upper Canada and Lower Canada; the former being bounded on the east by the line dividing it from Lower Canada, commencing at a stone boundary on the north bank of the Lake St. Francis, at the Cove west of the Point au Baudet, in the limit between the township of Lancaster and the Seigneurie of New Longeuil, running along the said limit, in the direction of north, 34 degrees west, to the westernmost angle of the said Seigneurie of New Longeuil, thence along the north-western boundary of the Seigneurie of Vaudreuil, running north 25 degrees east, until it strikes the Ottawas River, to ascend the said river into the Lake Temiscaming, by a line drawn due north from the head of the said lake, until it reaches the shore of Hudson's Bay; and being bounded on the south, beginning at the said stone boundary between Lancaster and Longeuil, by the Lake St. Francis, the River St. Lawrence, the Lake of the Thousand Islands, Lake Ontario, the River Niagara, Lake Erie, and along the middle of that lake; on the west by the channel of Detroit, Lake St. Clair, up the River St. Clair, Lake Huron, the west shore of Drummond Island, that of St. Joseph and Sugar Island, thence into Lake Superior. The said province of Lower Canada being bounded by the adjacent province of Upper Canada, and the boundary line between the said two provinces, commencing at a stone boundary on the north bank of the Lake St. Francis, at the cove west of the Point au Baudet, in the limit between the township of Lancaster and the Seigneurie of New Longeuil, running along the said limit in the direction of north, 34 degrees west, to the westernmost angle of the said Seigneurie of New Longeuil, thence along the north-western boundary of the Seigneurie of Vaudreuil, running north 25 degrees east, until it strikes the Ottawas River, to ascend the said river into the Lake Temiscaming, and which said province of Lower Canada is also bounded by a line drawn due north from the head of the said lake until it strikes the shore of Hudson's Bay."

— No. 3. —

EXTRACT from Commission appointing Sir *Edmund Walker Head*, Baronet, to be Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Province of *Canada*.

LETTERS PATENT, dated 20th September 1854.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, to Our trusty and well-beloved Sir Edmund Walker Head, Baronet, greeting:

1. Whereas We did, by certain letters patent under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster, the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, in the tenth year of Our reign, constitute and appoint Our right trusty and right well-beloved cousin, James, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, to be, during Our pleasure, Our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over Our province of Canada, as by the said recited letters patent, relation being thereunto had, may more fully and at large appear: Now know you that We have revoked and determined, and by these presents do revoke and determine the said recited letters patent, and every clause, article, and thing therein contained: And further know you that We, reposing especial trust and confidence in the prudence, courage, and loyalty of you, the said Sir Edmund Walker Head, of Our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have thought fit to constitute and appoint, and do by these presents constitute and appoint you, the said Sir Edmund Walker Head, to be, during Our pleasure, our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over Our said province of Canada.

2. And

2. And We do hereby authorise, empower, require, and command you, the said Sir Edmund Walker Head, in due manner to do and execute all things that shall belong to your said command, and the trust We have reposed in you, according to the several powers, provisions, and directions granted or appointed you by virtue of this Our Commission, and of a certain Act of Parliament made and passed in the fourth year of our reign, intituled "An Act to reunite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the Government of Canada," and according to such instructions as are herewith given to you, or which may from time to time hereafter be given to you in respect of the said province of Canada under Our sign-manual and signet, or by Our order in Our Privy Council, or by Us through one of Our principal Secretaries of State, and according to such laws as are or shall be in force within Our former provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, or in Our province of Canada.

CANADA.

EXTRACT of so much of the ROYAL COMMISSION of the Governor-General of *Canada* as defines the Boundaries of that Province.

(*Mr. Labouchere.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
13 *March* 1857.

112.

Under 1 *oz.*

399

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

FURTHER PAPERS

RELATIVE TO THE

STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

(*In continuation of Papers presented 6th June* 1856.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
21*st March* 1857.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1857.

CROWN RESERVE

BRITISH KAFFRARIA.

AMATOLA MOUNTAINS

To Queen's Town

CHUMIE RIVER

CHUMIE POST

SEVEN KLOOF

MACDONALD

FORT HARE

NECKAR RIVER

FORT COX

KEISKAMA HOEK

KEISKA R.

KABOUSIE

KABOUSIE POST

DOHNE POST

KABOUSIE RIVER

MIDDLE DRIFT

BUFFALO RANGE

BAYLEY'S GRAVE

IZELI RANGE

FORT WHITE

ISELI POST

BUFFALO RIVER

To Graham's Town

KING WILLIAMS TOWN

SCALE

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Miles

J. Bonnycastle Lieut. Royal Engrs. Assist.

June 24. 1856.

Gaika's

OF THE

RESER

AFFRARIA.

SCHEDULE.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

DESPATCHES FROM THE GOVERNOR.

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Sir G. Grey.

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Despatches from Governor Sir George Grey, Bart., K.C.B.

No. 1.

No. 1.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE GREY, Bart.

(No. 8.)

Government House, Cape Town,
February 8, 1856.
(Received April 12, 1856.)
(Answered No. 56, April 22, 1856, page 59.)

"I REGRET to have to enclose a very unfavourable report from the Lieutenant-General upon the present aspect of the frontier districts of this Colony of British Kaffraria, and the country immediately beyond it, at least in as far as relates to the maintenance of peace. In our frontier districts are located the large mass of Fingoes, regarding whose fidelity such frequent doubts have been expressed, and a considerable Hottentot population, whose chief locality is in the Kat River district, regarding whose fidelity doubts have also prevailed, and a portion of whom proved such very troublesome and active enemies in the late rebellion.

"Immediately beyond the frontier districts lies British Kaffraria, with its large population of Kaffirs and of Fingoes, who have been recently located there. Then, further in advance, and beyond the River Kei, are the Kaffirs of Kaffraria Proper and a large body of rebel Hottentots, composed partly of deserters from the Cape corps and their families, who located themselves there at the close of the recent war, and who keep up a constant communication with their relatives and fellow-countrymen in the Colony and in the Cape corps.

"The Lieutenant-General, for the reasons stated in the enclosed Despatch, thinks that there will, at no distant period, be an outbreak of these tribes of Kaffirs and Fingoes, and that they will be assisted by the Hottentots. He further thinks that the proceedings of a general court-martial, a copy of which is herewith enclosed, show that there has been a combined intention of a very large number of the Hottentots serving in the Cape corps to desert and join the rebel Hottentots beyond the Kei, where they would prove most dangerous enemies.

"The Lieutenant-General further calls attention to the fact of the natives denying that they have ever been conquered, and their anxiety to recommence hostilities, and states that were it not for the war now going on in Turkey, he should consider it his duty to represent to the War Minister the necessity of sending 5,000 additional troops to this colony; and he reminds me of the very scattered state of the army now serving in South Africa, and of the great difficulties which would spring from this cause when hostilities first broke out.

"Upon the general subject of the defence of the Colony, and our at present extremely critical position, I reported at great length in previous Despatches, and proposed, as the only permanent remedy I could devise for these evils, that a body of enrolled pensioners should be sent out, under a system of which I furnished every detail; and I am, even now, unable to propose any other plan by which the proposed objects could be permanently attained, for although a large increase to the military force would temporarily attain these objects, the same difficulties would arise again the moment the military force was reduced.

"The plan I proposed was not carried out, because the number of pensioners who in the first instance volunteered for the service was so small. I still, however, think, as I have stated in other Despatches, that if the pensioners are sent out in drafts as they volunteer, that it will be found, when once a ship with pensioners has sailed for this place, that other men will come forward, and that when the letters of those who have arrived here and have

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

done well have been received in the pensioners' districts in England, that there will be no difficulty in ultimately obtaining any numbers of men who may be required. There is, therefore, yet time for Her Majesty's Government to carry this plan out, and thus to save this country from the evils with which it is threatened, and to relieve Great Britain from much expense and anxiety.

"I do not, upon the whole, attach the same importance to the proceedings of the general court-martial as the Lieutenant-General does, nor am I quite sure that these proceedings show that there has been yet a combined intention of a very large portion of the Hottentots now serving in the Cape corps to desert and join Uithalder; but as I send home a copy of these proceedings, together with that of a report upon the alleged disaffection prevailing in the corps, which has been made by Colonel Sutton, the commanding officer, after an inquiry into the subject, you will be as well able as the General or myself to form an opinion on this point.*

"I also do not yet feel satisfied that the discontent amongst the Hottentot race has proceeded to such lengths as need excite immediate serious alarm. There can, I think, be no doubt, that in pursuing the line of policy which Great Britain has recently adopted here, a very difficult operation has been entered upon. Subjects of Her Majesty have been thrown off, and declared independent states, and the Hottentots beyond the Kei now call themselves an independent nation, and have offered to treat as such with us, adopting in this respect what they regard as a precedent which they are entitled to follow, and others will follow the same example.

"Moreover, if at the end of the war, that occasion had been seized on to declare a general amnesty for all, whether Hottentots or of other races, who had not been concerned in robberies or murders, our course would have been clear enough. But now the four hundred Hottentot men and their families beyond the Kei all remain as unpardoned and untried rebels, whose lands have been confiscated, and who, whenever they are caught in the Colony, are tried under martial law for rebellion, and if found guilty, are sentenced to two years imprisonment with hard labour. They thus are left as enemies close to our border, proving a focus of agitation and discontent, and being themselves discontented and in constant apprehension, there can be no doubt that they do their utmost to render others amongst their countrymen discontented, and to strengthen their own position by constantly adding to their numbers. To attempt, in the state of excitement which has recently and still prevails, now to pardon all these men, and to let them all return to the Colony and to the vicinity of their former lands, now occupied by Europeans, would produce an alarm and anxiety among the European population which would hurry on a contest of races.

"Again, at the end of the war, three courses might have been taken in regard to the Hottentot race settled chiefly in the Kat River. Either that settlement might have been left as it was, increased efforts being made to raise its inhabitants in intelligence and the pursuits of industry, in which they had made very considerable advances; or it might have been altogether broken up, its inhabitants being replaced by Europeans, and being themselves removed to some new locality further in advance, where renewed and increased efforts for their complete civilization might also have been made, and where, if they had been kept attached to us by benefits, they might have proved valuable auxiliaries in elevating the Kaffirs, or in keeping them in check in the event of a war; or, lastly, the settlement might have been partially broken up, a considerable European population being interspersed amongst the Hottentots.

"The last course of the three, probably the most difficult to carry out, was taken. One necessary consequence of this plan, and which, therefore, must be fairly met, was that the Europeans would gradually take all the district offices and all real power in the district out of the hands of the Hottentots, many of whom, being men who had enjoyed these advantages for years, were likely to be rendered discontented thereby, and perhaps, if worked upon and encouraged by their countrymen beyond the Kei, to carry their discontent to extreme lengths."

* The Enclosures connected with the court-martial being very bulky, are omitted.

No. 2.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 2.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart.

Government House, Cape Town,
February 11, 1856.
(Received April 12 1856.)
(Answered No. 56, April 22, 1856, page 59.)

(No. 9.)

Sir,

Since I had the honour of addressing you upon the 8th instant, regarding the discontent existing amongst the Hottentot race upon the frontier, I have received a memorial from the Hottentot inhabitants of the Kat River settlement, a copy of which is herewith transmitted, in which they set forth their immediate grievances.

Enclosure.
Memorial from Hottentots of Kat River.
January 16, 1856

2. These spring either from the cause I reported in my Despatch of the 8th instant, viz. the mingling of races in that settlement, and the consequent national jealousies, which, I must admit, are such as might be expected to generate discontent, or from alleged improper conduct on the part of their magistrate.

3. Immediate inquiries shall be instituted into the grievances of which they complain, and such of them as appear real shall be redressed without delay; but I have thought it my duty, under existing circumstances, not to delay transmitting to you a copy of this memorial, in order that Her Majesty's Government might have before them the fullest information as to the present state of the public feeling amongst the Hottentot race.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Encl. in No. 2.

Sir,

Kat River, January 16, 1856.

When your Excellency was so kind to visit this settlement you evinced a fatherly interest in its affairs. Personally, you were pleased to listen to some cases of our grievances; and you told those of whom we complained to act otherwise, and to us, "that we must never conceal our grievances, real or fancied," but make them known to you, and that you would always try to give redress where there is cause of complaint. The subject we now desire to bring to your Excellency's notice is of great importance—it is life or death to us—for death, at once, would be preferable to the continued persecution we endure; and we hope you will patiently hear and bear with us in disclosing some of the annoyances the Hottentot population of this settlement experience, which we cannot but regard now as a determination on the part of our magistrate to render our position as uncomfortable as possible. It is stated that our magistrate has recommended to the Government to appoint three field cornets for the settlement, and that those field cornets are Dutch farmers. Two reasons have been given for this change; first, because the inhabitants are now made up of two classes; and, secondly, because native field cornets cannot write. Now some time ago, or at the time that there was a talk of a Kaffir war, and when measures for defence were being taken, the Boers declared they would never serve under Hottentots. To meet this feeling, Mr. Meurant proposes two Boer field cornets, in place of the provisional native field cornets that have hitherto been appointed, because the Boers will not serve under Hottentot cornets. Hottentots and Englishmen must be made to serve under them, to meet their prejudices, so painfully exhibited even in the Church. As to the Hottentots not being able to write, we would say that for twenty years they have done all the correspondence with the Government, with the help of clerks, and they always gave satisfaction. But if the old field cornets cannot write, there are many younger men who can, and are competent for the office. But we would beg respectfully to state, further, that according to the Divisional Council Act, the Kat River is divided into three field cornetcies; and if so, then the services of the field cornets Bruintjes, Fourie, Valentyn, Jacobs, will cease. We have no objection that Boer field cornets should be placed over their own countrymen, but it does seem hard, that when they have publicly declared, with the knowledge of Mr. Meurant, that they will not serve under Hottentot field cornets, that Mr. Meurant should propose the appointment of three farmers over the Hottentots. If it was done to meet national feelings and prejudices, how is it that no Englishman has been proposed? We beg respectfully to state that this settlement is in a very precarious state; the interests of so many people are at stake, and that it requires the most sensible and impartial man to stand between the various people and interests. We do not like to speak against the ruler of our people, but a painful sense of duty obliges us to say that Mr. Meurant is not the man, from temper, national feelings, and local circumstances, to reconcile these varied interests. When that gentleman first came to the settlement, we received him in a manner worthy of a magistrate,

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

and for a time he seemed to do well; but from the time he began to wish to be a landed proprietor, and applied for land out of the Eilands River commonage, which had been occupied by Widow Vanneck, and that claimed by Gert Samson, besides purchasing another erf from a young woman at Eilands River, under circumstances which are not calculated to increase the people's confidence in the magistrate, the imprisonment of the young Vannecks by his son, which was disapproved by General Cathcart, but lightly treated by him, the imprisonment of Jacobus Josephs, and the feeling which our magistrate showed in favour of Boschof, because he was a white man, which case was, we believe, disapproved by your Excellency, have all tended to destroy the confidence which should exist between a magistrate and the people he rules. There is now between our magistrate and us only law, but no good will; and the very fact of your Excellency having heard the people's grievances in the presence of our magistrate, has given rise to an unpleasant state of things in the settlement. There is a state of irritation kept up, which it is difficult to explain.

But one of the gravest complaints the Kat River people have against the magistrate is, that he is the author and defender of the plan of having canteens in the settlement, and that in the face of the clause which Sir L. Cole and Sir B. D'Urban caused to be inserted in the title deeds, at the request of the whole community, including the ministers, which had even been respected by all former magistrates, was done away by Mr. Meurant, and whatever explanations the magistrate may make, the people of the settlement will always look on him as the person who, against the protest of the people of the settlement and their ministers, backed by your Excellency's personal remarks against canteens at Eiland's post established there, knowing them to be injurious to the settlement. If your Excellency will be pleased to look at the complaints which were given to your Excellency, you will observe many were such as were connected with Mr. Meurant's personal interest and not with third parties.

Some time ago, we believe that the white inhabitants sent about petitions, in which they state their confidence in the magistrate and their wish to keep him here: we said nothing at the time, but the coloured people quite disagree with them.

There are many evils and visitations of Providence which we have suffered by drought, lung sickness, and horse sickness; but we feel none so much as the state of things between us and our magistrate. We know that the Government has alone right to appoint our rulers, but we humbly submit that, as subjects, we may expect that those who take an interest in us are appointed. We have no complaints against the laws under which we are placed; but what we complain of is, that the Government have been unfortunate in selecting and investing with power magistrates who cared little about us or were interested in the progress of the settlement. It is not our intention to trouble your Excellency further, but merely to show that all confidence between our magistrate and the people he rules is gone.

The matter of the field cornets is felt much by the people, as well as the degraded manner the most respectable men and women of our community are used by the pass system, which is now enforced against Her Majesty's loyal subjects of Kat River, together with the compulsory service of the Fingoes, who dare not remain on our property without contracting according to the magistrate's peculiar interpretation of the law, and which is creating dissatisfaction where none previously existed.

Having thus attempted to yield to your Excellency's command, to open our hearts and convey to you our sorrows, we humbly pray your Excellency may be pleased to devote some consideration to this statement of our complaints, in order that the persecution pursued towards us may cease, and that we may enjoy, under your Excellency's administration, a quiet and peaceable life.

And we have, &c.

(Signed) A. Hatha.
C. Olevez.
H. Heyn.
W. Goezar.

(Signed) H. Vincent.
P. Platjes × his mark.
John Fourie.

To his Excellency Sir G. Grey, Bart.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 3.

No. 3.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart.

(Confidential.)

Government House, Cape Town,
February 11, 1856.
(Received April 14, 1856.)

Sir,

No. 8.
February 8, 1856.

Adverting to my Despatches, of the numbers and dates specified in the margin, regarding the present state of the frontier districts of this Colony,

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 9.

February 11, 1856.

I have now the honour to enclose a copy of a further Memorandum* which I have received from the Lieutenant-General, containing information regarding the state of feeling in Kaffraria Proper, from which you will find that there is no reason to apprehend any immediate disturbances in that quarter. Upon the whole, I think that the state of things disclosed in this Memorandum, of the accuracy of the information contained in which I am satisfied, is as satisfactory as could be under all circumstances expected.

2. The whole of the information I have at present obtained, and this from many sources, leads me to hope that the Kaffirs do not at present sympathize with the feelings of impatience and discontent which prevail amongst the Hottentots; and I therefore now hope, that by prudent management, the threatened disturbance may be prevented from breaking out.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 4.

No. 4.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart.

(No. 11.)

Government House, Cape Town, February 15, 1856.

(Received April 12, 1856.)

(Answered, No 56, April 22, 1856, page 59).

Sir,

A Mail closing early to-morrow morning for England, I think it will be satisfactory to you to be informed that I have now no reason to believe that any outbreak upon the frontier is likely immediately to take place, the alarm that existed appearing to have died away. The Kaffirs remain steadily at work upon the public works, and I am still of opinion that, if Her Majesty's Government will continue the measures now in operation, and promptly commence sending out enrolled pensioners to the Colony, that the unsettled state of affairs which has so long prevailed in South Africa may still be finally and satisfactorily adjusted.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 5.

No. 5.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. Sir Geore Grey, Bart.

(No. 10.)

Government House, Cape Town, February 22, 1856.

(Received May 12, 1856.)

(Answered No. 63, May 17, 1856, page 60.)

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit for your information copies of returns of public works in British Kaffraria for the months of December and January last.

Enclosures.

No. 1. Return of public works in progress, Dec. 1855.
No. 2. Do.
No. 3. Do. Jan. 1856.
No. 4. Do.

2. From these it appears that during the month of December, 539 Kaffirs, and in the month of January, 552 Kaffirs, were employed upon public works. There is no difficulty in obtaining any additional number of labourers, but there is a difficulty in obtaining European overseers who understand enough of the native character and language to take charge of working parties.

3. The experiment of employing native labourers upon public works is in every respect succeeding satisfactorily.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY, High Commissioner.

* This Enclosure is not printed, as the person who gave the information stipulated that it should not be published.

Enclosure 1 in No. 5.

BRITISH KAFFRARIA.

Return of Public Works in progress during the Month of December 1855.

Description of Work.	Overseers. European.	Overseers. Native.	No. of Native employed. Classes. 1st.	2d.	3d.	Remarks.	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward from pensioners' cottages.	—	—	—	—	19	Amount brought forward from last statement -	1,189	10	1½
						Amount of pay of men for the month of May 1855, under the superintendence of Lieutenant Lamont, not included in last statement.	81	11	0
							1,971	1	1
East London and King William's Town road, under the superintendence of Captain Fielding, Kaffir police.	2	—	4	8	88	Removed large stones from the road near Fort Grey and gravelled 200 yds. Repaired bridge on the Iquali stream and the bridge commonly known as "Reeves." The men are now employed making a drift near Fort Glamorgan for proposed new line of road, avoiding the drift sand.	119	7	4
Ditto, do., under Lieutenant Tekusch, do.	1	1	—	—	43	Commenced between Fort Murray and Fort Grey; re-called and sent to Line Drift's Hill.	11	11	6
Dohne and King William's Town, under superintendence of Gaika Commissioner.	—	—	2	2	31	The men have been employed scarping near the bottom of the hill about 200 yds. in length, width 24 ft., about 3 ft. deep. Ditto, cutting drains and widening a turn near the top of the road. The drift at the bottom of the hill has yet to be raised, if stones can be procured; if not, the slopes must be graduated.	36	3	0
Windvogel and the Dohne, do.	—	—	6	12	68	Levelling road and cutting drains near top of the rock; cutting drains between top of neck and Mr. Morris's farm; quarrying stones for culverts; blasting stones; making drift near Mr. Morris.	87	13	9
Watercourse at the Dohne, do.	—	—	5	13	66	The men had to work through a bed of sand-stone about 2 ft. thick and 200 yds. in length, which caused much labour in drilling, blasting, and removing the stones. About a mile of the road has been completed. The workmen have to travel five or six miles daily in going and returning from their work; one man scorched and contused in blasting.	70	4	0
Kabousie and King William's Town road, under the superintendence of Lieutenant Lamont.	1	—	1	2	68	Cutting from face of a hill 360 yds. long, 5½ yds. high; and 30 ft. broad, making a drift 60 yds. across, 30 ft. broad, and 4 ft. high (finished). Cutting drains 150 yds., 5 ft. deep, and 4 ft. wide. Bridge over marsh 5 ft. wide, 30 ft. long, made of stone (finished). Cutting drains 120 yds. long, 4 ft. deep and 4 ft. wide. Bridge of stone, length 30 ft. Ditto, drains 60 yds. long, 6 ft. broad, and 4 ft. deep (not yet finished). 360 yds. of bush cut down to open road.	77	14	0
Graham's Town and King William's Town new line, under superintendence of Mr. John Keyser.	1	—	5	10	90	About 400 yds. of this work had to be cut to an average depth of 2 ft. on the slope of a hill 30ft. broad; made a drift through the Thorn River, with 2 covered drains; 4 covered drains made at different places on the road. About 3 miles of the road is nearly completed.	122	2	5
Graham's Town and do., do., under superintendence of Lieutenant Tekusch, Kaffir police. Line Drift Hill.	—	—	—	—	—	Commenced work on January 7, 1856; no report yet received.	—	—	
Keiskamma Hoek and Kabousie, under superintendence of Rev. G. Dacre	—	—	—	—	—	100*l.* advanced to enable him to carry on the work, for which accounts have not yet been rendered. No report received from Mr. Dacre, consequently the number of men cannot be stated	100	0	0
							2,595	17	1½
						Corn supplied to Gaika Commissioner for rations for men, employed on public works under his superintendence.	67	2	2
						Amount for tools, &c. purchased for road parties (*vide* enclosed Return.)	261	7	1
							2,924	6	4½
						Add:—Pensioners' cottages (*vide* enclosed Return) -	1,471	18	1
Total - -	5	1	23	47	473	Total expenditure to December 31, 1855 - - -	4,396	4	5½

Abstract of the Number of Men employed.

Overseers.

European - - - - - - - - - - -	5
Natives - - - - - - - - - - -	1

Classes.

1st class - - - - - - - - - -	23
2d class - - - - - - - - - -	47
3d class - - - - - - - - - -	473
Total - - - - - - -	544

Pay lists and other accounts examined and certified correct.

(Signed) Richard Taylor, Resident Magistrate,
Acting Auditor.

Enclosure 2 in No. 5.

BRITISH KAFFRARIA.

RETURN of PUBLIC WORKS in PROGRESS during the Month of December 1855.

Description of Work.	Officers and Men employed.												Total Number of Men employed.	Amount of Expenditure.	Remarks.
	Captains.	Subalterns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Masons.	Carpenters.	Brickmakers.	Blacksmiths.	Miners.	Sawyers.	Labourers.	Natives, do.			
Amount brought forward from last account	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	£ s. d. 799 12 6	8 cottages completed.
Pay of officers and men employed on military pensioners' cottages, King William's Town, under the superintendence of Capt. Grantham, 45th Regiment of Foot - -	1	2	6	9	16	10	8	3	10	9	63	- -	142	174 9 6	10 ditto, except plastering and hanging doors and windows. 6 ditto, roofed.
Ditto, native men employed during the month of December 1855 - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	19	19	9 17 9	The streets in which the above 24 cottages stand will be finally finished with footpaths, privies, and even fenced in by the end of January 1856. Stone foundations laid in another street, ready to receive the brickwork of 11 cottages. 65,000 bricks ready for use, and poles and timber sufficient for 12 additional cottages, charged in account to 31st December 1855.
Total - -	1	2	6	9	16	10	8	3	10	9	68	19	161	983 19 9	
Amount for materials, tools, &c. (*vide* Enclosure No. 2.) - - - - -	- -	- -	-	- -	-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	487 18 4	
Total pay of men, materials, &c. -	1	2	6	9	16	10	8	3	10	9	68	19	161	1,471 18 1	

King William's Town, January 12, 1856.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN, Chief Commissioner.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.
Encl. 2 in No. 5.

Enclosure 3 in No. 5.

BRITISH KAFFRARIA.

RETURN of PUBLIC WORKS in PROGRESS during the Month of January 1856.

Description of Work.	Overseers. European.	Overseers. Native.	Number of Natives employed. Classes. 1st.	2d.	3d.	Total No. of Men employed.	Remarks.	Amount of Expenditure. £	s.	d.
Brought forward from pensioners' cottages.	—	—	—	—	21	21	Amount brought forward from last account - -	4,396	4	5½
East London and King William's Town Road, under the superintendence of Capt. Fielding, Kaffir police.	2	—	3	5	45	55	The men were employed during the whole month making a bridge on the new line of road avoiding the Drift Sand. The difficulty in getting sufficient number of men is, that merchants pay the natives a higher rate of wages than that allowed by Government.	90	12	10
Dohne and King William's Town, under the superintendence of the Gaika Commissioner.	1	—	2	2	47	52	After the completion of the turn which was in progress last month, it was found necessary to make another turn in the road, in order to make the ascent easier. This has involved an escarpment of about 200 in length. Height of bank about 3 ft.; width of road about 24 ft. in some parts. The first cut has subsided; these parts must be gone over and levelled. The drift at the bottom of the hill has yet to be made, and a hollow at the top raised, all of which must be completed in this month (February).	42	15	1
Windvogel Berg and the Dohne ditto.	1	—	5	11	76	93	The road from the top to the bottom of the neck is complete. A new cutting, about three-quarters of a mile in length, going down to Thorn River, has been completed, with the exception of the removal of a number of large blocks of stone, which must be blasted. The road has also yet to be drained; it is 25 ft. wide, and the upper wall about 3 ft. high. An excellent drift has been made across the little stream issuing from the Windvogel Berg.	83	7	4
Watercourse at the Dohne, ditto.	—	1	5	11	81	98	2,600 yds. has been cut during the month; 800 yds. about 6 ft. deep, the rest at an average of 2 ft. deep, and 2½ ft. wide. The deep cutting was made with the intention of draining a fertile valley, in which much of the ground is at present useless by the ooze of water from the high land above the deep cutting; was very difficult; in some parts a thick bed of sandstone had to be worked through; in others, hard conglomerate ironstone gravel. There still remains about 200 yds. to be cut, which may be completed by end of this month (February).	85	2	3½
Kabousie and King William's Town, ditto, under superintendence of Lieut. Lamont.	1	—	1	2	69	73	Cutting over top of hill, 320 yds. long, and 80 yds. of forest cut down, and the roots taken up, and the holes filled in with stone. Drift made through forest 20 yds. long, 30 ft. broad; total length of cutting, 420 yds. long, 30 ft. broad (finished). A drain made through marsh, breadth 7 ft., bridge of stone 30 ft. long, 3 ft. deep. A drain made through marsh, 130 ft. long, 2 ft. broad, 3 ft. deep (finished). Drain made through marsh, 126 yds. long, breadth about 3 ft., depth 2 ft. Bridge of stone, 30 ft. long, 7 ft. broad (finished). Three drifts cut through marshes, average breadth 30 ft., depth 2½ ft.; total breadth of cutting 60 yds. (finished). One side of drift repaired. Marsh dug out 30 ft. square, 3 ft. deep, filled up with stones (finished). 2½ miles of bush wood cut down level with the ground, average breadth 40 ft. (finished). The road marked with flags from the Izele road to the Kabousie post (finished). Completed 8th February.	99	15	6
Graham's Town and King William's Town, under superintendence of Mr. John Keyser.	2	2	4	11	110	129	During the first two weeks the men were employed in cutting down the banks of the Buffalo River to an average depth of 2 ft., the length being 133 yds., making the road 30 ft. wide. The last two weeks the party has been engaged escarping the road along the slope of a ridge between King William's Town and "Kais kraal," a distance of 360 yds., to an average depth of 3 ft.	142	18	4
Ditto ditto Line Drift Hill, under the superintendence of Lieut. G. Tekusch.	2	1	—	—	46	49	Making a new line of road on the hill from Line Drift towards King William's Town, of which about 200 yds. have been completed, with the exception of the drains, which are in progress. Only third-class men have been employed during the month of January 1856.	33	0	0
Keiskamma Hoek and Kabousie, under the superintendence of Rev. G. Dacre.	—	—	—	—	—	—	£100 advanced to enable him to carry on the work, for which accounts have yet to be rendered. No report received from Mr. Dacre, consequently the number of men cannot be stated. The amount advanced is included in previous statement, and in the amount brought forward.			
								4,973	15	10
							Amount for tools, &c. purchased for use of road parties - -	145	4	8
							Add:—Pensioners' cottages (*vide* inclosed return) - - -	648	12	5½
Total - -	9	4	20	42	495	570	Expenditure to 31st January 1856 - - - -	5,767	12	11½

ABSTRACT OF NUMBER OF MEN EMPLOYED.

OVERSEERS.—European - - - - - - - -	9	
Native - - - - - - - -	4	
CLASSES.—1st class - - - - - - - -	20	
2d class - - - - - - - -	42	
3d class - - - - - - - -	495	
Total - -	561	

Pay lists and accounts examined and found correct.

(Signed) RICHARD TAYLOR, Acting Auditor.

King William's Town, February 12, 1856. (Signed) JOHN MACLEAN, Chief Commissioner.

Enclosure 4 in No. 5.

BRITISH KAFFRARIA.

RETURN of PUBLIC WORKS in PROGRESS during the Month of January 1856.

Description of Work.	Number of Officers and Men employed.													Amount of Expenditure.	Remarks.
	Captains.	Subalterns.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Masons.	Carpenters.	Brickmakers.	Miners.	Sawyers.	Thatchers.	Labourers.	Natives.			
Amount brought forward from last account	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	£ s. d. 1,471 18 1	24 cottages, with privies and footpaths, completed, and the whole are enclosed with a strong wooden fence.
Pay of officers and men employed on military pensioners' cottages, King William's Town, under the superintendence of Captain Grantham, 45th Regiment -	1	2	6	9	19	12	12	3	2	5	56	–	127	214 4 6	18 other cottages will be completed by end of February 1856. Stone foundations laid ready to receive the brick-work 8 other cottages.
Ditto of native men employed during the month of January 1856 - - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	21	21	27 0 9	There are sufficient poles to complete 40, and sawn timber for about 20 cottages.
Total - - -	1	2	6	9	19	12	12	3	2	5	56	21	148	1,713 3 4	20,000 bundles of thatch and about 30,000 burnt bricks on hand, charged in account to 31st January 1856.
Amount of materials, tools, &c. - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	407 2 7½	Amount expended during the month of January 1856 - - - - £648 12s. 5½d.
Total - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2,120 10 6½	

King William's Town, February 12, 1856.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,
Chief Commissioner.

B

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.
Encl. 4 in No. 5.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 18.)

Government House, Cape Town, March 14, 1856.

(Received May 12, 1856.)

(Answered No. 67, May 27, 1856, page 60.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that I yesterday opened the third session of the Cape of Good Hope Parliament, upon which occasion I read to the Legislative Bodies the speech, a copy of which is herein enclosed.

2. You will be gratified at finding, from the concluding paragraphs of that speech, that the apprehensions which recently prevailed of renewed disturbances in this Colony have now entirely died away.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. in No. 6.

Enclosure in No. 6.

SPEECH delivered by his Excellency the GOVERNOR at the OPENING of the THIRD SESSION of the COLONIAL PARLIAMENT.

MR. PRESIDENT, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:

MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

1. THE state of the public business of this country has rendered it necessary that I should again have recourse to your advice and assistance, and that I should request from this Parliament authority for the expenditure, during the current year, of such sums as are necessary to enable me to carry on the government of the country.

2. Being thus compelled to summon you to meet me, I hope that the season of the year which I have chosen for this purpose is that which is most convenient to the members, and in which their private interests will be least injured by their attendance in Cape Town to discharge their public duties.

3. Upon the occasion of our last meeting, I informed you, in considerable detail, of the nature of the policy which I proposed to pursue upon the frontier of this colony; and in inviting your co-operation in carrying out that system, I stated the kind and extent of aid which I hoped Great Britain would afford, and upon its rendering which depended, indeed, the whole chance of success of the plans which I proposed for your adoption.

4. Nothing can be more generous than the conduct of Great Britain in reference to this colony has recently been. Although occupied in so important a contest in Europe, the full number of troops recommended as requisite for the protection of this colony, and of its inhabitants, have been left here; whilst, in the same spirit of liberality, a considerable grant has been made for the purpose, amongst other things, of defraying certain charges in British Kaffraria and beyond the border, which it had been originally intended to charge upon the revenues of this colony. By this wise and liberal arrangement, the local government finds itself in possession of the means of promoting the welfare and civilization of the native race, which has, in certain localities, been so densely congregated within the colonial boundary, and which it must otherwise have almost entirely neglected.

5. In one respect only have the recommendations I made in regard to the future protection of this colony not yet been carried out, which is that relating to the enrolment of pensioners for service in South Africa.

6. It appears that, upon the first call being made in England for candidates, it was found probable that not more than 90 pensioners, or about one company, would come forward at the time of embarkation.

7. Her Majesty's Government therefore let the plan fall to the ground, informing the pensioners, who had offered to come out, that their services would not be required.

8. An impression seems unfortunately, at the same time, to have rested on the minds of the home authorities, that the state and prospects of the frontier of this colony were such, that if persons were made thoroughly acquainted with them, no inducements could be held out which would be sufficient to tempt them to emigrate here.

9. I have, however, again strongly recommended that those pensioners, who have volunteered for service in South Africa, should, without delay, be sent out with their families,—for I am still impressed with the belief that if one detachment of pensioners arrived here, other volunteers would soon be found; and that when the news of the success and comfort of those who had first reached this country was circulated throughout the pensioner districts in England, a sufficient number of men would, from time to time, offer themselves for service in South Africa, and would arrive in this country as rapidly as we were ready to receive them.

10. I feel bound the more strongly to urge this subject upon the attention of all interested in this country, because the experience I have had here has not enabled me to devise any other plan by which the protection of the frontier settlers can be provided for.

11. The present system of military occupation of the country, united with the settlement, at carefully selected points, of enrolled pensioners in defensible villages, would render the organization of the frontier, for the purposes of defence, complete.

12. Fortified posts would then be provided in each district, where, in the event of a war, the families and properties of the settlers bound to military service would be in safety, whilst they took the field. In the same manner, the military posts and police stations would be held by the pensioners, whilst the military and police took the field. Our defensible posts would thus still be maintained according to the plan I propose, in three parallel lines, in full efficiency, whilst every man fit for active service would be set free for aggressive operations against the enemy.

13. With such advantages as these on our side, a war, if one again unfortunately broke out, would, I should hope, be brought to a speedy and fortunate termination.

14. Those well acquainted with barbarous tribes, as many of you are, must well know, that unless those who are to rule them have at their disposal a force which is obviously sufficient to coerce and punish them if they break into revolt, it is almost hopeless to attempt to elevate and civilize them. For it is the nature of barbarians, in their ignorant pride, readily to attribute kindness to fear, and to think that generosity springs rather from timid apprehensions than from a desire to promote their interests.

15. I ought also not to conceal from you my own belief that, to render the system at present adopted for the occupation of our most exposed frontier a safe and successful measure, in the event of enrolled pensioners not being permitted to come out to this colony, some other means, besides those now in existence, should be, without delay, provided for the protection of the settlers there.

16. With a view of providing, in part, such a protection for the settlers of the frontier, you authorized the formation of a mounted police force. This body has already, to a great extent, been organised. Its services have been found most useful; and I feel satisfied that it adds greatly to the security and protection of the settlers, and will, in every respect, prove advantageous to the country.

17. Still further to provide for the defence of the frontier, I have applied for powers to enable me to enrol for service in this country, military pensioners who may have settled here, on the same system as is adopted in Great Britain, and in other colonies. When I have completed the necessary arrangements for this purpose, a very useful body of men will be added, in times of emergency, to the force we already have upon the frontier.

18. You will be glad to hear that the inhabitants of the colony have also very generally shown a disposition to enrol themselves in volunteer corps, for the purpose of aiding in the defence of the colony. This anxiety upon their part to aid the Government is very laudable in itself; and the system they are adopting will, under proper regulations, prove a most valuable addition to the means of defence of the country.

19. In order that you might be put in possession of the fullest information regarding the present state of the frontier, I have recently despatched there an officer of great experience, to report in detail upon the manner in which the occupation of the country by settlers bound to military service has been carried out.

20. There are still considerable tracts of land on the frontier, which I propose should be occupied by settlers, bound by similar stipulations. But before carrying this intention into effect, it appeared desirable to obtain all the light which experience could throw upon this subject, so that the arrangements I made might have every chance of proving as beneficial as possible for the public service.

21. Even in the instance of those persons who had already been put in possession of farms held on such a tenure, it appeared desirable, before issuing their grants to them, to reconsider the conditions which it had been stipulated should be attached to such grants, in order that if, as I had reason to suppose, any of them should prove to be impracticable, or likely to produce no benefit for the public, they might still be omitted in the grant,—for no advantage can arise from attempting to maintain conditions which cannot be enforced, or from enforcing onerous conditions without gaining any corresponding advantage from their enforcement. To persist in either of these courses could only diminish the value of the property, discourage and impoverish the holder of the grant, and enfeeble a kind of defence which it is so desirable to strengthen.

22. I thought it probable that when the inquiry I have instituted had terminated, you might wish that only a few, and the most simple, of the stipulations which had been made, should be embodied in the grants, and that you might then, by a short enactment, provide means for the due enforcement of these stipulations and for the establishment of one uniform system in the lands already occupied, and in those which I now propose to give out.

23. In further pursuance of the plan of frontier policy which I traced out, the experiment has been tried of employing the natives of Kaffraria upon public works. In so far the experiment has entirely succeeded. The average number of men hitherto employed has been about 550. I have authorized an increase of their number to 900 men. There

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

is no difficulty in procuring any number of Kaffir workmen for whom we can find employment; but it is found more difficult to obtain overseers, who not only possess the qualifications usually required in such an officer, but who have, at the same time, a competent knowledge of the native language and customs. The Kaffirs hitherto employed upon the public works have shown themselves strong and industrious labourers; they have been well conducted and obedient. The public works upon which they have been employed have tended greatly to open up their country and to facilitate the transit of goods through it in every direction; and I feel satisfied that the roads formed by these native workmen will, whilst they form an interesting memorial of what its aboriginal inhabitants were capable of accomplishing, prove of the utmost advantage to the present and future inhabitants of South Africa.

24. Actuated by the desire of attempting by every means, not only to protect the colonists from the incursions of the Kaffirs, but at the same time to create a trade between British Kaffraria and this colony, which might be advantageous to both, I have not only, as I have already stated, taken care to throw open Kaffraria to commercial enterprise by causing good roads to be constructed,—but arrangements have been made with the chiefs, under which European magistrates are being located in each district, and a simple mode of administering justice is being adopted, by which a security will be given to life and property, such as never before has been enjoyed in that country. A proclamation has also been issued, which will be laid before you, by which all unnecessary restrictions upon trade with that country have been removed; and a system of taxation which must have pressed heavily, not only upon the industry of its inhabitants, but its commercial intercourse with this colony, has been much improved.

25. You will find also, from the returns which will be laid before you, that industrial schools have been established amongst the Kaffirs and Fingoes in various localities. The success of institutions of this character can only be made manifest after some years of devoted labour. But I believe that in no country were such institutions ever established with greater prospect of success than they hold out here. The natives readily send their children to these schools in greater numbers than accommodation can be provided for them, and I feel satisfied that the devoted zeal and energy with which the clergy of different denominations have given themselves up to this work has never been surpassed, and is such as to entitle them to our warmest gratitude.

26. Upon the occasion of my last meeting you, I expressed my opinion that it was then, perhaps, desirable to wait for another year, before the Colonial Parliament adopted any system of introducing, upon a large scale, an increased European population into the colony.

27. I have employed the time which has since intervened, in acquainting myself as intimately as I could with the character and resources of the country, and with its fitness for receiving European immigrants.

28. Having thus acquired sufficient experience to speak with some degree of confidence upon the subject, I now recommend you to sanction the commencement of immigration to this colony under the auspices of the Government.

29. The general outline of the plan which I would propose for your consideration is as follows:—That the Government should be by law authorized to raise, for immigration purposes, the sum of two hundred thousand pounds by the sale of debentures, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent., payable either in London or Cape Town, the principal and interest forming a first charge upon the revenue of the colony. Such debentures to be issued in sums of not less than fifty pounds each,—to be disposed of by tender. The debentures and the interest due on them would be payable to order,— and the date to which the interest had been paid would be endorsed on the back of the debenture at the time of payment. They would thus form a valuable and convenient security.

30. If you should determine to sanction some plan of this nature, it would perhaps be desirable that a committee should be appointed to consider upon what system the proposed immigration should be conducted. It may even be desirable to leave some latitude to the executive government in this respect, so that it might not be fettered in its operations, but might, if advantageous offers were made for the introduction of immigrants upon any particular system, be able to avail itself of them. There will be less objection to your leaving such freedom of action to the executive government, because it will take a considerable period of time to carry out so extensive a plan of immigration as I propose for your adoption, and ample opportunity will be afforded to this Parliament, at its next session, to reconsider, and if necessary to legislate in greater detail upon this subject.

31. I ought to point out, whilst I recommend you to contract a debt for the purpose of introducing immigrants, that the increased revenue which will be yielded by the population which you introduce will far more than defray the interest of that debt, and at the same time provide a sinking fund for the liquidation of the debt itself; whilst the greatly increased value which their presence here will give to the waste lands of the Crown, will afford another means of defraying the cost of their introduction into the colony. But the fact of a tide of immigration setting into these shores will also greatly increase private wealth, by raising the value of all kinds of property, and by affording the means of developing the varied resources of this country.

32. It should be borne in mind, when various plans are devised for procuring steam

communication for this colony, for securing for it the advantages of railroads and harbours, for providing for the better defence of its inhabitants and its frontier, that every one of these advantages will necessarily follow from a large increase to your European population; that almost every other means that you can devise for obtaining any one of these advantages is uncertain, and may be only temporary in its results; but that a largely increased European population will infallibly and permanently secure every one of them, as well as many other advantages for you.

33. Only those who have witnessed the extraordinary development which is given to the growth and resources of a new country from the adoption of a systematic introduction of immigrants into it, can rightly appreciate the change which such a system would produce in the condition and prospects of this country.

34. It might be thought, from the recently slow rate of its progress, compared with the Australian colonies, although it lies so much nearer Europe, that it did not hold out to immigrants the same advantages which those colonies afford. But with a very large practical acquaintance with the continent of Australia, I can now, after having visited so great a portion of South Africa, unhesitatingly state that this country affords at least equal advantages to European immigrants, and that it affords a field of immigration which holds out to those who enter it a certainty that themselves and their descendants may, with industry, attain to as great a competence and comfort as in any other country in the world.

35. In some respects, indeed, the Cape of Good Hope holds out greater advantages to immigrants than any other colony; for whilst it offers to them those advantages in regard to the many openings afforded for the profitable employment of industry, and the procuring of lands on reasonable terms, which all new countries enjoy in common, it at the same time offers to the immigrant many moral and social advantages, which can only be found in a country which has been for some time occupied by a considerable European society.

36. It will be for you to determine whether or not this is an undertaking for the promotion of which a loan should be raised; but in the recommendations I have made I have acted upon the conviction that those who legislate for countries should have confidence in their resources, and should remember that the credit of a country, when it is well established, contains great dormant energies, which it is their duty on fitting occasions to rouse into being, and to use as freely as those resources which they find ready created to their hands. The wisdom and ability of a legislature is in no manner more fully shown than in the wise use of such a credit. It is from this source that the greatness of all powerful nations and states has sprung; and I think that this colony contains accumulating and undeveloped means of the kind I allude to, superior to those of most other colonies, which have never yet been duly appreciated or made use of, but which now, properly applied by you, might lead it to a high degree of prosperity and importance.

37. In conformity with what I believed to be your wishes, I have directed that the recommendations of the House of Assembly, in reference to the Crown lands of this colony, should be carried into effect; and I shall, after sufficient experience of their operation, be prepared to recommend that they should be embodied in a law, although at present it appears to me doubtful if some considerable modifications will not require to be made in them.

38. The tenure upon which land is at present held in Namaqualand for mining purposes appears, in several respects, to be ill adapted for the promotion of private enterprise, or of the general interests of the country. I shall therefore gladly co-operate with you in making such changes in the present system of granting leases of land for mining purposes as may appear likely to be more advantageous for the public than that now in force.

39. I regret much the check which mining operations generally have experienced; but the yield of copper from those mines which remain in successful operation justifies me in still hoping that a further careful exploration of Namaqualand will prove that it may hereafter be a source of great wealth to the colony.

40. A Committee of the House of Assembly having, after an inquiry, reported upon the system of education established in the colony, I trust that you will during this session come to a decision upon the subject, in order that I may be made acquainted with your views regarding it.

41. Whilst adverting to this subject, I should state that I will very gladly co-operate with you in any efforts you may make to place the South African College on a footing which may meet, not only the present, but the rapidly increasing wants of the colony with regard to the higher branches of education, and thus render it an establishment worthy of the number of years which this colony has existed, of the importance to which it has attained, and of the knowledge and learning of the nations from which its inhabitants have sprung.

42. From returns which will be laid before you, it will be found that at least 100,000 head of cattle have been lost through the prevailing lung-sickness, and about 65,000 horses from the disease which has prevailed amongst them, involving jointly, it is to be feared, a loss to the proprietors of stock which must have most seriously affected them, and must have produced, temporarily, a very injurious effect upon the general prosperity of the colony. You will, I am sure, together with myself, deeply deplore the great amount of individual loss which has unfortunately sprung from these two causes. Probably you will

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

think the subject worthy of your serious consideration, with a view to ascertaining whether it may be in your power to adopt any measures which may prevent the spread of the lung-sickness, which is said still to prevail in some of the interior districts of the colony.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;—

43. In conformity with the intentions which I expressed at the last meeting of the colonial legislature, I have had prepared for your consideration, estimates for the appropriation of the revenue for the year 1856,—thus departing from the practice hitherto pursued of submitting to the legislature estimates for the service, not of the current, but of the following year.

44. The estimates which will be laid before you have been prepared with a due regard to economy, in reference to the system of public expenditure pursued in the colony. In truth, the executive government has at present in this country but little discretion left to it upon this subject. Large and expensive public establishments are in existence under the authority of local ordinances, the mere maintenance of which on their present scale absorbs so large a proportion of the revenue, that but a very small part is left, over which the executive government can exercise any control, for the purpose of making reductions.

45. Upon the whole, I believe it would be in your power ultimately to make considerable reductions in the expenditure of the country, without injuring the efficiency of the public service, and this without lowering the present rate of salaries, which, from applications which will be laid before you, will be found to be hardly adequate for the proper support of public officers, at the present high cost of the necessaries of life, the price of which has within the last few years so greatly risen.

46. It might be difficult immediately to make such reductions, but I believe that reforms might be commenced, which would eventually lead to so desirable a result. I therefore recommend you to take into your consideration the whole question of the present state of the finances of this colony and of its civil establishments.

47. I had previously brought under your notice, that the expenditure which you had authorized the executive government to incur during the year 1855, and the continuance of which you authorized for part of the year 1856, was considerably in excess of the revenues then collected in the colony.

48. You authorized this expenditure under the impression that there was a rest in the treasury and divisional chests of 85,000*l.*, which was appropriable to such objects as you might determine, and that a new scale of customs duties, proposed in conformity with the recommendations of your select committee, would give a large immediate increase to the revenue.

49. In regard to the balance of 85,000*l.*, supposed to be appropriable to such objects as you might determine, I have reason to think, from returns recently furnished, that the supposed balance was in point of fact liable to many charges, and was thus not, as was supposed, available to meet the whole of the expenditure which you intended to throw upon it. The increase which has been made in the customs duties, although I have no doubt it will ultimately produce the revenue calculated, has not immediately yielded the revenue which was necessary to meet the expenditure which you sanctioned.

50. The revenue of the country must undoubtedly have been affected by the commercial difficulties which unfortunately recently prevailed here, arising from the transactions of past years, the pressure of which has now happily been to a great extent removed. The great individual losses which have been sustained from the lung and horse sickness must also, to a great extent, have had an unfavourable influence upon the revenue.

51. The means at the disposal of the Government having, from these several causes, fallen so much short of the estimated amount, I have felt it my duty to refrain from incurring expenses which you had approved of, where I could do so without injury to the public service. The result has been, that although the available balance now in hand is not so large as was anticipated, the Government has kept itself free from all financial difficulties.

52. From the causes above stated, the estimates, which will be laid before you, for the year 1856, will considerably exceed the estimated revenue.

53. It will therefore be necessary for you to consider if any reductions can be made in these estimates. In paying attention to this point, it should be borne in mind that although the expenditure proposed by those estimates should receive your sanction, it is probable that several amounts which may be voted will not require to be spent by the Government. You are only asked to sanction the expenditure of the whole amount, in order that if a necessity for incurring it arises, the Government may not be left without having at its disposal the funds which it will then require to provide for the welfare or security of the colony.

54. I will also endeavour to effect as large a saving as possible in the several schedules, the disposal of which is reserved, by the Constitution Act, to the Executive Government.

55. Applications have been made by the divisional councils of several districts, that funds should be granted to them to enable them to defray the salaries of their necessary officers and petty expenses. I therefore recommend you to consider by what means funds should be raised by the divisional councils, not only for paying their officers, but for the due performance of the various local duties which have been, by law, assigned to them. In any legislation upon this subject it will probably be thought desirable at the same time to remove that restriction which now prevents field cornets from becoming members of divisional councils.

56. I also would recommend for your consideration the propriety of passing a law empowering the Government to cause a census of the colony to be taken, not oftener than once in every five years. A considerable annual saving may thus be effected. The returns of population, stock, and produce, which are now taken every year, being very imperfect, the information not being collected under the authority of any law, whilst the annual cost to the colony is considerable.

57. By the Constitution Act a registration of voters throughout the colony should take place within the next few weeks. The cost of such registration will exceed 2,500*l.* I therefore request you to consider whether, in the present financial condition of the country, it would not be better that a law should be enacted postponing such registration of voters for one or two years.

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

58. You are aware that great anxiety has recently prevailed under the belief that extensive combinations for aggressive purposes had been formed amongst the native tribes, both within and beyond our border, and that war was consequently likely soon again to break out upon our frontier.

59. There can be no doubt that our position in this country is still critical, and that at any moment renewed and formidable disturbances might take place; that any sudden and imprudent reduction in the force now here might again instantly plunge us into a war, undo all that has been with such difficulty achieved, and remove us from all hopes of attaining, for many years to come, that state of security and permanent tranquillity, which I believe a very few years' persistence in the present generous and prudent system of policy which Great Britain has adopted would certainly obtain.

60. It must also be admitted that any relaxation in prudential measures by the Government,—any too ready yielding of an unwise confidence on their part, in consequence of any apparent tranquillity and distaste for rapine and war which might temporarily prevail,—would probably result in very disastrous consequences for the country.

61. Yet, feeling this, I am bound to say that those best acquainted with the present state of Kaffraria inform me that there is no reason whatever to believe that the chiefs of Kaffraria have been implicated in any recent conspiracies or plots against the colony, and that everything in that quarter, where our greatest danger lies, bears at present a very favourable aspect.

62. You may rely, however, that the existing state of tranquillity shall not lull the Executive Government into any unwise security, but that every effort shall be made to use it wisely, by continuing to adopt measures which, whilst they have a tendency to avert any future struggle between this colony and the native tribes in its vicinity, shall yet so develop its resources and strengthen its means of defence, as to render it well prepared to meet and to put down such disturbances, should they unfortunately arise.

63. One satisfactory proof, not only of the present state of tranquillity of the country, and of the public confidence which has generally prevailed, (however it may have been partially disturbed,) but also of the great advantages which result from such tranquillity, and from a confidence in its maintenance, is the remarkable manner in which the resources of the colony have been recently developed. You will find from the commercial returns that the exports of colonial produce have in one year risen in value from 666,000*l.* to 970,000*l.*, being an increase of about 40 per cent., and that the export of sheep's wool alone has increased within the same period from 446,000*l.* to 634,000*l.*, being an increase of nearly 50 per cent. This one article of export thus furnishing in the last year the means of paying one-half the value of the imports introduced into this country. In alluding to this subject, I would also call your attention to the very important fact, that whereas in the year 1854 the value of the imports exceeded that of our exports by 982,000*l.*, in the year 1855 this difference was reduced to 205,000*l.*, whilst if, in the year 1855, instead of considering the whole year, we consider only the last half of the year, it will be found that in the six months ending on the 31st of December 1855, the imports and exports balanced each other.

64. This state of tranquillity and progress has fortunately not only prevailed within the colony, but also beyond its border. The states and native nations in our neighbourhood have in these respects been equally fortunate with ourselves.

65. In the Orange Free State we have witnessed the cheering sight of a people, instead of yielding to difficulties, courageously struggling against them, establishing a strong and efficient, and, I must add, a most deserving government; promoting from very scanty resources the spread of religion and education,—developing to the utmost the great natural resources of their country,—cultivating the most amicable relations with their friends and recent fellow-countrymen in this colony, and alike by their professions and actions establishing strong claims upon our interests and sympathies.

66. Feeling assured that having thus deserved them, they would have your sympathies in their favour, and that you would desire to see that officer who represented you and the colony shape the conduct of this Government as became the older state to the younger, the stronger to the weaker, I have neglected no means within my power to secure the safety, to protect the interests, to foster the trade of the states beyond our border, and generally to promote the welfare and happiness of their inhabitants.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

67. I am glad to inform you that the native chiefs who rule the tribes in immediate contiguity with the colony or British Kaffraria, including Moshesh, Moroko, Kreli, Fauku, and Panda, all express great anxiety to maintain friendly relations with this country. They have also given, in some instances, unmistakeable proofs of the at least present sincerity of their professions, and of their respect for the Government.

68. Amidst, therefore, some untoward circumstances, I think the present position and the future prospects of the country are such as demand our warmest gratitude to Divine Providence, and as may fairly encourage you to hope that by a wise use of the present opportunity, and of the great means of usefulness at your disposal, you may secure for South Africa a more permanent state of tranquillity and prosperity than it has ever hitherto enjoyed.

No. 7.

No. 7.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 12.)

Cape Town, March 22, 1856.
(Received May 24, 1856.)
(Answered No. 70, June 2, 1856, page 61.)

Sir,

I feel much pleasure in transmitting for your information the copy of the first report from a Magistrate placed amongst the Kaffirs under the new system. You will, I think, be gratified, in perusing this report from Captain Reeve, of the 73d Regiment, to find how well this plan for the appointment of Magistrates appears likely to answer the ends contemplated, and how acceptable it now appears to be both to the Kaffir chiefs and people.

Captain Reeve to Col. Maclean. March 7, 1856.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY, High Commissioner.

Encl. in No. 7.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Sir,

Middledrift, March 7, 1856.

I have the honour to report further upon my proceedings as special magistrate of the chief "Kama."

It is with the greatest satisfaction that I have to acquaint you, that the system of his Excellency, with regard to this district, seems to give general satisfaction both to the chief and his people.

In all cases which have been brought before "Kama," I have been present, and have done my utmost to keep in view his Excellency's wish, as to my position as adviser and assessor with the chief in council.

I have found in every case in which I have expressed an opinion, or asked a question, that the greatest respect has been shown me respecting it.

I have carefully explained to "Kama," that I have to act as his friend, and *not* as the chief of his tribe, and I am convinced that he sees that now in its proper light, and feels sure that this feeling will soon obtain throughout the tribe, though I am aware, from some of the questions asked me by "headmen" whom I have visited, that a general feeling obtained among the people at first, that it was the intention of the Government to give them white men as chiefs. I need scarcely say that I have laboured to remove this impression.*

I am confident that "Kama," and those of his people with whom I have been much in contact, look upon me as their friend, as they have, on several occasions, come to me for advice and assistance, when misunderstood by white men, and I am glad on several occasions to have removed difficulties and to correct errors to the satisfaction of both parties.

With the case of "John v. Payne" † you are already acquainted, as I have fully reported upon the subject, how a cruel act on the part of an Englishman was justly punished, and satisfaction obtained by a British officer almost wholly through the influence and assistance of "Kama."

I have succeeded on one occasion in levying a fine in money by the decision of "Kama" and his council; it was a trifling case, and the fine at my request was small, but I conceive that his Excellency would desire to have money fines to be gradually introduced, as it seems to have many advantages on the old system. In this instance, the fine was paid at once to me in presence of the chief and council, its justice acknowledged, and being small, thankfully paid.

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* This report was in circulation and gained belief amongst the tribes, immediately after the meetings held in the Hlambie and Gaika districts.—J. M.

† Lieutenant John, of the 2d Queen's Regiment, *versus* Payne, a civilian, at Fort White, for wilfully breaking a horse's leg. Payne found guilty by resident magistrate, King William's Town, and paid 12*l.* (value of the horse), and fine 1*l.* The Chief Commissioner gave Kaffirs of Kama's tribe, 1*l.* 10*s.* as a reward for discovery of the truth in this case.—J.M.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

In visiting my district, I have paid visits to the chiefs "Nate" and "Lama," now living in "Kama's" country, and looking upon him as their chief. They are both nephews of "Kama," as you are aware, the one being a son and the other being a nephew of the chief "Pato." I was received with much civility by both these chiefs, and sat conversing with them through my interpreter, Mr. Chalmers, for a considerable while. "Nate" had a number of counsellors with him, who, together with himself, asked me many questions on many subjects.

Much interest seems to be felt about the war with Russia. I took care to explain this matter to them, showing them that although the English had lost many men, the Russians had lost vastly more, and that in all our engagements we were victorious. I also explained to them, that to so great a chief as our Queen, the loss of even a large number of her soldiers was of little consequence, as there were always many more who would gladly take their places. I considered it best to speak fully and with truth upon this subject, as I know that the "war doctors" spread false reports about the war with an evil purpose.

Both "Mati" and "Lama" are influential men; "Mati" is still pretty well off, but "Lama" has lost almost all his cattle and seems very sad about it. He told me that he feared he should never be able to get a wife for his son, a serious evil when this custom makes marriage legal and children legitimate.

I was much pleased with my last visit to Mr. Kayser, the missionary; he took me to see an improvement he is making in his old watercourse, by bringing the aqueduct higher up the river; he will much increase the rush of water by adding to its fall, and commanding from the peculiar formation of the river at the spot he has chosen a constant flow of water even when the river is lowest. This intelligent and active man has managed all the leading himself, and gets his people to work without payment, as they all see that the advantages to themselves will be very great. He spoke most thankfully of having received a grant of spades and pickaxes from you, and said, by their means, he was enabled to carry on his work.

The absence of "Kama" *on pass*, brings me more immediately in contact with his son "Samuel," to whom "Kama" deputes his power when absent. I have requested Samuel to remove to his father's house during the absence of "Kama" (this with his father's approval). This he has done, and I am glad of it for many reasons.

I shall thus see much more of Samuel, and may be able to influence him a little, I trust for good.

He is, I believe, much ashamed at having given up Christianity, and is afraid to see the missionaries.

I think a kind word may have weight with him. We have had much conversation respecting the growing of forage, and he has agreed to buy a plough and commence at once, his old one being broken and useless.

The late rains have done much for the later crops of mealies, and the harvest of Kaffir corn promises to be very good. The early mealies have, however, been very generally failures.

The loss of cattle still continues.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. Reeve, Capt. 73rd Regt.,
Special Magistrate Chief "Kama."

Colonel Maclean,
Chief Commissioner, Fort Murray.

No. 8.

No. 8.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 13.) Cape Town, April 3, 1856.
(Received July 12, 1856.)
(Answered No. 90, August 12, 1856, page 63.)

Sir,

Adverting to my Despatch,* No. 10, of the 22d of February last, forwarding returns of public works which were being carried on in British Kaffraria during the preceding months of December and January, I have now the honour to enclose similar returns of the public works in progress, in that province, in the month of February last, from which I think you will be gratified at finding that the experiment of giving employment to Kaffirs upon public works is proceeding in every respect most satisfactorily, and is producing very advantageous results.

* Page 5.

Enclosure.
Return of public works.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 8.

BRITISH KAFFRARIA.

RETURN of PUBLIC WORKS in PROGRESS during the Month of February 1856.

Description of Work.	Number of Officers and Men employed.													Total Number of Men employed.	Amount of Expenditure.			Remarks.
	Captains.	Subalterns.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Masons.	Carpenters.	Brickmakers.	Blacksmiths.	Miners.	Sawyers.	Thatchers.	Labourers.	Natives.		£	s.	d.	
Amount brought forward from last account	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,120	10	6½	Completed to date, 50 cottages, and four others in progress, nearly finished.
Pay of officers and men employed on military pensioners' cottages, King William's Town, under the superintendence of Capt. Grantham, 45th Regiment	1	2	6	10	19	11	13	1	5	2	4	58	–	132	186	4	0	Material on hand for present use, viz.,— Timber for 35 cottages. Poles „ 12 „ Thatch „ 2 „ Bricks „ 6 „ Stone foundations ready for brickwork for 3 cottages.
Ditto of native ditto	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	19	23	17	6	
Amount of materials, tools, &c.	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	352	4	11	Amount expended during the month of February 1856 - - - £562 6s. 5d.
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,682	16	11½	

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Encl. 2. in No. 8.

Enclosure 2 in No. 8.

BRITISH KAFFRARIA.

RETURN of PUBLIC WORKS in PROGRESS during the Month of February 1856.

Description of Work.	Overseers. Europeans.	Overseers. Natives.	Number of Native Men employed. Classes- 1st.	2d.	3d.	Total Number of Men employed.	Remarks.	Amount of Expenditure. £ s. d.
Brought forward from pensioners' cottages -	- -	- -	- -	- -	19	19	Amount brought forward from last account.	5,767 12 11½
East London and King William's Town road, under superintendence of Capt. Fielding, Kaffir Police.	2	—	6	6	95	107	The men were employed completing the drift on the new line from East London to Fort Grey, and generally employed repairing the road near to Fort Grey.	94 2 8½
Dohne and King William's Town, under the superintendence of Gaika Commissioner.	—	—	2	4	38	44	The party was engaged during ten days quarrying stones, carting them, and making a causewayed drift at the bottom of the hill. A drain of half a mile in length has been cut, and parts of the road, where the embankment has subsided, have been filled up.	45 14 9¾
Windvogel Berg & Dohne ditto ditto.	—	—	5	9	67	81	600 yds. of road have been cut to the Thorn River; average width 26 ft., depth of escarpment 2½ ft., retaining wall 2 ft. The labour on this piece of ground has been great, as it has almost entirely consisted in blasting and removal of large blocks of sandstone. There has been no clear cutting, and much difficulty has been experienced in sinking drains. The road party will be removed to the Thomas River during the month.	79 11 5½
Watercourse an the Dohne ditto.	—	1	5	10	85	101	About 2,000 yds. of course has been cut during the month at an average depth of 2 ft. and the same width. Ten men have been employed for ten days in cutting sneeze-wood poles for forming bridges across the ditch wherever waggon roads cross it.	85 16 9
Kabousie and King William's Town, under superintendence of Lieut. Lamont, Kaffir Police.	1	—	1	2	42	45	One marsh drained, 120 yds. long, 3 ft. wide, 2 ft. deep. Bridge of stone 7 ft. wide, 30 ft. long (finished). One marsh drained, 120 yds. long, 5 ft. deep. 4 ft. wide (finished). One drift widened, 20 yds. long, 30 ft. broad, depth of cutting 4½ ft., through stone (finished), and the road completed.	17 13 6
Graham's Town and King William's Town new line, under superintendence of Mr. John Kayser.	2	2	4	12	132	150	Between the 1st and 20th the men were employed completing the road between King William's Town and "Rais Kraal." The work done within that period consists of 500 yds. of scarping, the average depth of which is 3 ft. deep and 15 ft. wide; also digging a drain above the road to carry off the rain-water, 2,500 yds. long. From the 20th to the 29th their time was fully occupied in constructing their huts, and encamping on the Intshilkizie River. The road is now completed, a distance of fully eight miles from King William's Town.	175 3 2½
Line Drift Hill, under superintendence of Lieut. Tekusch, Kaffir Police.	2	—	2	4	66	72	Making road up Line Drift according to plan of Lieut. Harvey, R.E. Making drains and cutting the bush for the purpose of making road. About 350 yds. have been completed during the month.	61 15 8½
Keiskamma Hoek and Kabousie, under superintendence of Rev. G. Dacre.	In abeyance.—J. M.						No report received. £	6,327 11 1½
							Add:—Amount for tools purchased - -	21 11 6
							Amount of expenditure for pensioners' cottages as per enclosed return.	562 6 5½
Total - -	7	3	25	47	544	619	Total - - - £	6,911 9 0¾

King William's Town, March 25, 1856.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN, Chief Commissioner.

Compared and certified correct,
(Signed) JOHN AYLIFF, Auditor.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 9.

No. 9.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 32.) Cape Town, April 24, 1856.
(Received July 12, 1856.)

Sir, (Answered No. 78, July 14, 1856, page 62.)

I have the honour to transmit for your information the copy of a letter which I have received from Lieutenant-General Jackson, commanding the Forces in this Colony, together with two Enclosures to that letter.

Enclosure No. 1. Lieut.-General Jackson to Sir George Grey. April 15, 1856.

2. You will find from these papers that it is the Lieutenant-General's opinion that no doubt can exist as to the intentions of Moshesh, Sandilli, Delema, and others to enter into a combination to attack the Colony on the first favourable opportunity, and that the strength of Her Majesty's troops in this country, scattered as they necessarily are, is totally inadequate to enable the Lieutenant-General successfully to encounter, much less to quell, an attack from such a formidable mass of natives, headed by these Chiefs.

3 The Lieutenant-General also presses on me the urgent necessity which exists for at once sending for a regiment to the Mauritius, the arrival of which he does not doubt would defer the outbreak until an application could be made to Her Majesty's Government for a reinforcement of three or four battalions of infantry and a regiment of cavalry.

Enclosure No. 2. Sir George Grey to Lieut.-General Jackson. April 23, 1856.

4. You will find from my reply to the Lieutenant-General, the copy of which is herewith enclosed, that I believe such a combination of the Chiefs as the General thinks has been formed for the purpose of making a simultaneous attack on this Colony, is impossible, as Moshesh has at present quite enough upon his hands with the European inhabitants of the Orange Free State.

5. I, however, believe that Moshesh, finding himself threatened with an attack from the people of the Free State, who expect to be largely aided by volunteers from their countrymen in this Colony, is very probably striving to save himself by encouraging the Kaffirs to attack us at the moment he is himself attacked by the people of the Free State, hoping that by thus keeping the inhabitants of this country employed in providing for their own safety, he will prevent them from aiding in the expeditions which are likely to be made by the people of the Free State against himself. Whether he will succeed in these plans is doubtful, even whether he has yet taken such overt steps as to enable us fairly to implicate him in a proceeding of the kind, is also doubtful.

6. It is, however, certain that the relations between Moshesh and the Free State are at present very unsatisfactory. Each party appears confident of success if a war take place, hence they are, perhaps, not indisposed to a rupture, which at any moment may, by some unforeseen event, be brought about. I enclose, for your information, the copy of a letter which I have received from the President of the Free State, from which you will find that in a few days from the present time the inhabitants of that State contemplate making an attack upon a subordinate Chief, between whom and Moshesh intimate relations exist. What events may spring from this contest it is impossible to foresee.

Enclosure No. 3. The President of the Orange Free State to Sir G. Grey. April 7, 1856.

7. In several previous Despatches I have pointed out the present very insecure position of Her Majesty's Forces, scattered as they are in this country, and I applied on these grounds for enrolled pensioners, whose services could not be procured; I have therefore felt, after the very strong representations which the Lieutenant-General has made to me, that I should not now be justified in refusing to comply with his request that I should send to the Mauritius and endeavour to procure the services of another regiment for this Colony.

8. I accordingly requested the Commodore to dispatch the "Penelope" upon this service, which he has done, and I have forwarded by her a Despatch to the Governor of the Mauritius, copy of which is enclosed, begging that he will dispense for the present with the services of a regiment serving in the Mauritius, the timely arrival of which will, I hope, perhaps prove the means of preventing the Kaffirs from carrying into effect any attack upon the Colony which they may now be meditating.

Enclosure No. 4. Sir G. Grey to J. M. Higginson, Esq., C.B.

Enclosures. No. 5. Secretary of Lieutenant-Governor to Colonial Secretary, April 12, 1856,

9. I enclose herewith for your information copies of the papers named in the margin, all of which relate to the rumours now in circulation regarding a combination for a joint attack on the Colony said to be formed among the Chiefs I have before named. You will thus be enabled to judge what probability there

is of such a combination having been formed, for I have no other information in my possession. I ought to state my own opinion to be that we have as yet no sufficient evidence that such a combination has been entered into, nor any sufficient grounds for immediate serious apprehensions, although I think the present state of affairs, particularly in reference to Moshesh and the Free State, is such as to require us to adopt every possible precaution to place ourselves in such a state, that if any disturbances do break out, we may, if possible, succeed in speedily crushing them, and thus prevent a long, ruinous, and expensive war, which would effectually blight the good prospects which this Colony now has before it from its large and increasing production of wool and other exports.

10. I have only further to add, that the authorities in British Kaffraria all unite in representing that province to be at present in a state of prosperity and tranquillity, and that when the parliamentary session has concluded I will, without delay, proceed to the Frontier.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

with 2 Enclosures.
No. 6. Statement of Mr. * * * April 12, 1856.
No. 7. Secretary of Lieut.-Governor to Colonial Secretary, April 19, 1856, enclosing letter from Civil Commissioner of Queen's Town, April 7, 1856.
No. 8. Another statement from Mr. * * * April 19, 1856.
No. 9. Letter from Mr. ——. April 18, 1856.

Encl. 1. in No. 9.

Head Quarters, Graham's Town,
April 15, 1856.

Sir,

I have the honour herewith to enclose for your Excellency's information copies of two depositions which have been confidentially furnished to me by * * * * * * * * * and which he has obtained from reliable sources.

These depositions, your Excellency will perceive, differ but little in their tenor, although the agents from whom they come have had no communication with each other, and have been employed in totally different parts of the country.

Your Excellency will also observe how closely they approach the information I had the honour to forward to you on Saturday last, leaving but little doubt that a most extensive and dangerous combination is on the point of becoming matured between the most powerful native chiefs on our border, to overturn the tranquillity of the colony.

I trust it will appear to your Excellency that the most active measures must be immediately taken to counteract this impending alliance, by making the chiefs aware of their plot being known, or by such other mode as your Excellency may think best.

As no doubt can exist of the intentions of the native chiefs, whose names are stated, to attack the colony upon the first favourable opportunity, I think it right to submit to your Excellency my opinion of the necessity for at once sending off for a regiment from the Mauritius, whose arrival would, no doubt, defer the outbreak until an application could be made to Her Majesty's Government for a reinforcement of three or four battalions of infantry and a regiment of cavalry, which could readily be spared in the event of the European war being terminated, or otherwise for such number of militia regiments as could be most speedily sent out without withdrawing any of the troops now in this country.

I need not point out to your Excellency that the strength of Her Majesty's troops in this country, scattered as they necessarily are, is totally inadequate to successfully encounter, much less to quell, an attack from the formidable masses of combined natives headed by Moshesh, Sandilli, and other powerful chiefs pressing upon our immediate front and flanks. And I, therefore, think I should be wanting in my duty were I to omit bringing to your notice the urgent necessity of at once obtaining additional forces to resist, or more happily avert, the threatening calamity, as I feel assured that by force of arms alone can these restless and formidable chiefs be shown the hopelessness of another struggle to drive the white population from the land, until the civilizing and enlightened policy which has been introduced by your Excellency has obtained a firm and lasting foundation.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) J. Jackson,
Lieut.-General commanding the Forces.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in Enclosure No. 1.

Sub-Encl. 1 in Encl. No. 1.

I left for Queenstown, and slept the first night at Phillipton, but the Hottentots were too cunning for me. I went on the next day, and slept at night at the Ox kraal. They told me that a Fingoe had arrived a short time before from the Craii River. He told them that it was the intention of the people over the river (Moshesh) to join with Sandilli, Kama's sons, Delema, Pato's son, and all begin to make war at the same day. Moshesh told Sandilli that he must ask for his land back, and if refused it, must then begin the war; and that he (Moshesh) would also begin by attacking the Boers on his frontier. The Tambookies would not have anything to do with the war, as they had enough of it. The Hottentots, who are now over the Kei, would also join the Kaffirs, but those in the colony would remain quiet or fight for the English. They say that Lynx and Gaika and Umlangeni are fighting against the English over the water (in the Crimea), and that it is a lie

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

which has been told about the Russians being a white nation. Their opinion is that they are all blacks, and were formerly Kaffir warriors who have died or have been killed in the various wars against the colony. It is also the opinion of the Kaffirs that the colony will receive no more help from England, and that the colonists will be very soon left to fight for themselves. If they were all decided as to a day, they would begin the war when the corn is all put into the holes. They are, however, very distrustful of each other, and they say that if Moshesh met with a reverse to begin with, that the others would back out of it; and the same with Moshesh, who is afraid of the others leaving him to fight for himself.

The above is the story told by the Fingoe from the Craii River.

I then went to Lessington, and they told the same story; and my own opinion is, that if they could depend upon each other, that the war would not be very long in beginning.

(Signed) E. S.

Graham's Town, April 10, 1856. April 14, 1856.

Sub-Encl. 2 in Encl. No. 1.

Sub-Enclosure 2 in Enclosure No. 1.

———— states, I went to Fort White to visit my friends, and when there a man from Toise's tribe came there; he was a Pakati, and an old friend of mine; he told me that war was resolved upon by Moshesh, Sandilli, Kama's sons, Pato's son, Delema, and several of the other tribes. Krelli was, however, undecided, as the Tambookies are going to sit still, and he would be in a dangerous position if they, together with the Queenstown farmers, were to attack him. Moshesh had sent word to Sandilli that if he began, he (Moshesh) would support him, but that Sandilli must first ask for the ground which had been taken from him, and if the Government refused, he must then begin. Sandilli said Moshesh must begin first, and when he heard that the war is going on he will begin too; each was, however, distrustful of the other not beginning at the same time.

The war will begin when the corn is put into the holes.

I do not know what part the Fingoes will take in the event of a war. I think there is very extensive mischief in the wind, but when it will begin I do not know.

Graham's Town, April 10, 1856. (Signed) E. S.

Encl. 2 in No. 9.

Enclosure 2 in No. 9.

Government House, Cape Town,

Sir, April 23, 1856.

In reply to your Excellency's letter of the 15th instant, requesting that application should at once be made to the Mauritius Government to detach a regiment for service in this colony, I have the honour to acquaint you that I have requested that the "Penelope" should be at once detached upon that service; and that if a regiment can be spared from that island you may anticipate that it will be disembarked at the Buffalo Mouth about the 20th or 23d of next month. I shall, in a few days, be able to judge whether it would also be better that the wing of the 73d regiment, at present serving in Cape Town, should be sent on to the frontier.

2. I ought to point out to your Excellency that, although I have felt it to be my duty to take these precautions, in order that we may be prepared for any untoward events which may take place, I do not altogether rely upon the information of which you have been put in possession.

3. I have carefully weighed that information, which would lead us to infer that a combined attack on the colony is to be made by formidable masses of natives, headed by Moshesh, Sandilli, and other powerful chiefs; this is at present impossible, for Moshesh has quite enough upon his hands with the European inhabitants of the Orange Free State. What I believe to be the truth is (although I am not quite certain of this), that Moshesh being threatened by the Government of the Free State, who expect to receive aid in the way of volunteers from the colony, is probably intriguing to induce the Gaikas and others to set on us if he is attacked, so that we, occupied in taking care of ourselves, may not be able to furnish any aid to the Free State against him.

Enclosure No. 3 to Despatch 32. Sir G. Grey to Secretary of State. April 24, 1856.

4. You will find, from the enclosed copy of a letter from the President of the Free State, which I received yesterday, that he purposes to make an attack on one of the minor chiefs during the month of May.

5. This state of things, even in the aspect under which I view it, although it does not threaten us with immediate danger, calls for the utmost vigilance upon our parts, in order that we may be prepared for anything which takes place, as there can be no doubt that at any moment the colony might be exposed to an attack, which, if not at once repulsed, may lead to a long, serious, and expensive war.

6. Your Excellency will, I am sure, take every precaution in your power to be prepared to meet any attack which may be made on the colony; and you may rely that I will afford you every assistance in my power.

7. I enclose for your information the copy of a letter from the commodore, containing the orders which have been issued to the officer in command of the "Penelope," which has proceeded to the Mauritius.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Lieut.-Gen. Jackson, K.H., Commanding the Forces. (Signed) George Grey.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Sub-Encl. 1 in No. 2.

Sir, "Castor," Simon's Bay, April 22, 1856.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of to-day's date, with its enclosure, the copy of a letter from Lieut.-General Jackson, Commanding the Forces, and to state that Her Majesty's steam-ship "Penelope" will leave this port for Mauritius about noon to-morrow, and that the "Castor" will remain upon this part of the station until she returns.

I beg to enclose a copy of my order to Captain Sir William Wiseman, of the "Penelope," and

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B. (Signed) H. D. Trotter, Commodore,
&c. &c. &c. Commanding in Chief.

By Henry Dundas Trotter, Esq., Commodore of the Second Class, commanding in chief Her Majesty's ships and vessels employed, and to be employed, on the Cape of Good Hope station.

As soon as Her Majesty's steam-ship under your command can be got ready for sea, which you have reported will be before noon to-morrow, you are hereby required and directed to proceed with all possible dispatch to Port Louis, in the Island of Mauritius, at which place you are, immediately on your arrival, to communicate with his Excellency the Governor, and deliver to him the accompanying despatches from the Governor of this Colony, who has made an urgent application for a regiment to be sent from thence for the defence of this colony, now threatened with a combined attack by several powerful chiefs.

2. You are with the least possible delay to receive on board the "Penelope" whatever troops the Governor of Mauritius may request you to embark, and you can with safety carry; and having so done, and completed your fuel and provisions to whatever quantities may be required, which you are to do with all possible dispatch, you will again put to sea, and proceed without delay to the Buffalo Mouth on this coast, at which place the troops you may have on board are to be disembarked; and you will then return with Her Majesty's steam-ship under your command to this port, touching at Algoa Bay on your way, in the event of orders being forwarded to that port for your further proceedings.

3. As by the last news from the Mauritius the island was suffering most severely from small-pox and cholera, it will occur to you that the less coal you may require to take on board at Port Louis, and, therefore, the less time occupied in this duty, the less likely are you to be visited by disease arising from communication with the shore. In reference to this subject, I would merely call your attention to the two different routes to the Mauritius at this season, namely, the one from hence coastwise, the other by proceeding at once to the southward to reach the permanent westerly winds, as I by no means wish you to understand that a small expenditure of fuel should be effected by economizing during the voyage at the expense of lengthening the passage; it being of the utmost importance that the service upon which you are proceeding should be executed in the shortest possible time.

Unless fuel is urgently required, you are not, while in Algoa Bay, to receive on board any coal from the naval depôt which is in charge of the commissariat officer, the quantity there being very small.

Dated on board the "Castor," in Simon's Bay, this 22d April 1856.

(Signed) H. D. Trotter.

Sir William Wiseman, Bart.,
Captain of H. M. Steam-ship "Penelope."

By command of the Commodore,
(Signed) T. W. Haverfield, Secretary.

Enclosure 3 in No. 9.

Encl. 3. in No. 9.

Government Office, Orange Free State, Bloemfontein,

Sir, April 7, 1856.

Perceiving some exaggerated reports in some of the Cape papers, of an intended expedition from us against Witse and other bands of squatters on private lands within this state, at and near the Witte Bergen Harrismith district, I have thought it proper to inform your Excellency that it has been resolved by the Volksraad, at their last meeting, to send out a command against Witse and the other squatters, who are principally Zulus from Natal district, in order to punish them for depredations committed during a series of years on our people, and to expel them from the lands they have seized upon to such an extent as to threaten ere long to cut off our communication with Natal. This expedition is likely to proceed in that direction in the course of next month, and I have also given notice thereof to the Natal government. My principal motive for informing your Excellency arises from the proceedings of two of Moshesh's captains on the Smithfield line, as well as of others on the Winburg side, in addition to his letter to me dated 21st March 1856, of which, and of my answer thereto, I annex copies.

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Altogether, it appears not at all improbable that he will cause or provoke hostilities with us, which may possibly in some measure affect the boundary of the Cape colony, also on the side of the Caledon River district.

I feel assured that the real cause of a war between Moshesh and us will be the boundary question, of whatever other circumstance he may avail himself as a pretext. I shall endeavour, as much as may be in my power, to avert such an event, so far as may be at all consistent with my duty to protect the rights of the inhabitants and landowners of this state, who hold their titles from the British authorities. Should a struggle, however, be forced on us, it will, I fear, be a bloody one, and will no doubt inflict such losses on the state in live stock and other property, that the sufferers, driven to despair, will not improbably endeavour to expel the Basutos from this side of the Orange River. In how far your Excellency may feel the inclination, or have the power to interfere to prevent the calamities which I foresee from such an event, is impossible for me to conjecture; but your influence may by possibility accomplish much. Should that, however, fail, and you might feel justified in allowing volunteer colonists to come to our assistance, I shall from time to time give you notice of the state of affairs in regard to the proceedings in question.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) J. Boshof,
President Orange Free State.

Sub-Encl. 1 in Encl. No. 3.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in Enclosure No. 3.

Government Office, Orange Free State,
Bloemfontein, April 3, 1856.

Great Chief,

Your letter, dated 21st March, in answer to mine of the 1st of the same month, reached me yesterday; I am glad to find that you admit Letsea did wrong in writing the letter which he states to be his own, but I should have been better satisfied if he had apologized for his conduct, and promised not to repeat such conduct, the more so as I have since found out that the woman is a Hottentot and not of his tribe; however, I shall let that pass for the present, and say no more about it. As to the subject of the line, I am rather surprised at what you write; I am sorry you did not mention these things when I met you at Smithfield in the presence of his Excellency the Governor; even now you speak of a line which you say "*will be established, for it is adhered to by my tribe,*" that is, "*from the Commissee drift on the Caledon River*" down to the Orange River, leaving Roesberg "on my side," and which description is so vague that I can make nothing of it. "Down to "the Orange River"? What part of it, and how is it to be above Commissee drift? And besides, this is but a small portion of the boundary between us, so that I am at a loss to answer you on that subject, until you let me know a little more definitely what your meaning is, which I request you will do, that I may inquire into these matters and give you a full answer.

I now wish to write to you on another subject. You are aware Witzie and other Kaffirs at and near the Witte Bergen, have robbed our people of horses and cattle a great many, and have refused to refund or make any amends; even your interference has not availed anything. Besides that, they have occupied the farms of the Boers and lived in their houses. We have resolved to submit to these things no longer, and should they persist in such conduct, we may be forced to take measures against them. I give you notice of it, that should such a thing occur you may not be unaware, and that you may take measures to prevent their seeking refuge amongst your people, and mix them and you in the quarrel.

With my best greeting, I remain, &c.

To Moshesh,
Paramount Chief of the Basutos.

(Signed) J. Boshof,
President Orange Free State.

Sub-Encl. 2 in Encl. No. 3.

Sub-Enclosure 2 in Enclosure No. 3.

Government House, Bloemfontein,
March 1, 1856.

Worthy Friend,

I have thought proper to write a few lines to you in order to inform you that the Great Council of the people of this state has approved of and confirmed the agreement entered into by us at Smithfield on the 6th day of October last; and also that an inspection of land on the borders of the Caledon river district will take place by the Land Commission in the course of a few months, and that it will be advertised in the Bloemfontein Gazette for the information of all parties concerned.

I have further to inform you that Mr. Orpen, the Acting Landdrost of Smithfield, has written to me concerning a correspondence between him and the chief "Letsea," concerning the woman Anna Hermanns. I annex herewith copies of that correspondence, so that you may see that I have reason to be displeased with Letsea, on account of the threatening language made use of by him in the letter of the Acting Landdrost, but more so with the man that wrote that letter for Letsea, and with the words spoken by the messenger, "Paulus Lepolo." Such things may bring on serious consequences. I therefore beg of you to take such steps as may tend to prevent a repetition of the conduct complained of, as I have given orders to the Landdrost severely to punish any attempt that may be made on the part of Letsea, or any of his people, to set the laws or authorities of this state at defiance.

The case of the woman has been properly inquired into, and she was, on the clearest evidence, found guilty of theft before a competent court of justice, and though she may always have been an honest woman before, that is no reason why she should not be punished if found guilty of such a crime; and I should have expected from Letsea as a chief, that he would have thought it his duty to discountenance such deeds, instead of becoming an advocate for them.

Hoping that you are well, and that I shall soon hear from you,

I remain, &c.

To Moshesh,
Great Chief of the Basutos.

(Signed) J. Boshof,
President, Orange Free State.

Sub-Enclosure 3, in Enclosure No. 3.

Sub-Encl. 3. in Encl. No. 3.

Great Chief (Morena), Thaba Bosigo, March 21, 1856.

Your letter of the 1st inst. has been brought to me, informing me of the case of a bastard woman, but I will not meddle with the affair since it has already been settled. Both Letsea and myself we do not object to a thief being punished according to law. As to the letter of my son, he has told me, when I inquired, that it was entirely his own, and I have found fault with him for having written it.

Respecting the limit question, it would be wrong in me to keep silent about it, since it is a great one, and that you might find it improper of me not to return you an answer. Be so good, Sir (Mongali), as to hear me how I look at that question, about which my whole tribe thinks also as I do.

When we saw that the whites crossed the Orange river in 1836, we wondered at it; they crossed by lots, they begged from the blacks for pasturages everywhere, one by one, in a very good, soft manner. We did not imagine that they would appropriate the land to themselves, and when I heard that they were purchasing farms from each other, I hastened to issue a proclamation (October 29, 1844), telling to the whites, *Do not barter the land, for it is not our custom of us Basutos to do so.*

According to our custom the land belongs to all the people: it is bequeathed to our posterity, but it is not disposed of by bargain, and also it is not our habit to define limits in it.

Then (1845) came Maitland (Sir Peregrine), a worthy chief (morena), truly so. As to him he said to me: *Moshesh, my children* (my subjects) *have you gone away from me, and I don't know where to locate them; grant me room between the Orange and Caledon rivers, towards their juncture.*

To him I granted, because he had asked very properly of me, without stealing by taking anything away.

Afterwards came the Major (Major Warden); he robbed me of the land from Maitland's own towards Jammesberg. I said that man acts hastily, he robs me of a great piece of land, he robs me of it in a harsh way. In it there are but few Boers, though Poshuli lives within it, and that there are villages in it beyond one hundred in number. And the Major said: *I will govern those villages, they are mine.*" He said besides: "*On the Mantatees border people trouble you,* (though it was people let loose by himself,) *and I will not arrange anything there till you satisfy me about this new limit, by subscribing your name to it.*

I therefore did put my name to it (October 1849) without the consent of my people. I said that thing will be evident to all men, that it is the deed of a fool (lettanya), and perhaps shall it preserve peace between me and the English. I said besides, should it one day be fought for (that limit) when the imbecility (botolo) of it becomes evident, the fault will not be attributable to me.

It happened that Major came; he told me, *I have been sent by the Queen to hear you.* He called me to Poshuli's. He asked me at a national meeting (pitso) held on a Sunday, Mr. Arbousset and Mr. Bertram being present, *Moshesh, do you wish that I should restore your brother* (Pushuli) *unto you, and your people taken in by Major* (Warden)?

At Bolukuane, February 22, 1852.

I answered him, saying, You have spoken.

Now, he asked, what do you complain of besides? I said, I complain of the Major, and he hastened to say, *And me, too, I am in trouble about him. I have already put him out of office.*

I said, besides, that Captain Baillie also had annoyed me very much by killing people, by depredations made everywhere. It is him who has destroyed our peace with the Boers. Mynheer Hogge said: *I know of it too; but a day before yesterday, being at Witte Bergen, I gave orders to the Magistrate at Smithfield to lodge him into gaol without delay.*

Now, I said, the Tambookees also at Morosi's complain, and say it is how they always steal from you, the whites.

The Major said: *What do they complain of?*" And as they were in that national meeting, they hastened to say, *We complain that children have been stolen from us by you, the whites, and that they have been made slaves. They are* 60 *in number.*

To this the envoy of the Queen said: Some are amongst the people in the sovereignty; some have been taken down to Natal. *Although things are so, I will make my best and restore them to you.*

Thus we parted from each other. Again it happened that Clerk (Sir George) called me to Jammesberg to a meeting with the Boers (Dec. 1853). He said to Mr. Hoffmann: Translate *for me to say to Moshesh, The limit by Major Warden, from what I see, is not*

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fair to the Basutos. Let their chief point out another more advantageous to us than that of Maitlang that the Boers may be satisfied.

I said in answer to him: Truly, this is a hard concern; but I consent to point out another, that our peace may be consolidated. I pointed out the one from Commissie drift on the Caledon River down to the Orange River, leaving Koesberg on my side.

That word of mine I do not conceal it. I stand by it to this day; and it is the one which will be established, for it is adhered to by my tribe.

I have already spoken. I do no wrong to the whites, for we are reckoned by tenths of thousands, and we have reserved to ourselves a mere skirt of land. The Boers are counted by thousands only, and they extend from the Orange River up to the Vaal River, and beyond it over a very, very wide land.

Now, Great Chief (Morena), when your land surveyors will go to inspect the farms in the Caledon district, be aware that I will not prevent them, provided they do not encroach upon the limit we had spoken of with Sir George Clerk.

That is my answer.

I salute you very much.

I am,

MOSHESH, + Chief of the Basutos.

For a true a literal,

(Signed) T. JOUSSE, V.D.M.

Enclosure Note to Despatch No. 9.

Enclosure 4 in No. 9.

Government House, Cape Town,

SIR, April 22, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Excellency's information, the copy of a letter which I have received from Lieut.-General Jackson, Commanding the Forces in this colony.

2. You will find that the Lieut.-General, who is residing upon the frontier, is of opinion, from information which he has received, that no doubt can exist of the intentions of several powerful chiefs, who can bring a very large force of infantry and cavalry into the field, to attack the colony upon the first favourable opportunity; and he reports that the strength of Her Majesty's troops in this country, scattered as they necessarily are, is totally inadequate to successfully encounter, much less to quell, an attack from the formidable masses of combined natives under their chiefs who would at once press upon his front and flanks.

3. Under these circumstances, the Lieut.-General earnestly requests me to beg of you to permit one of the regiments at present serving in the Mauritius to be detached to South Africa.

4. I have felt it to be my duty, in compliance with his wishes, to call upon the Commodore commanding on this station to send Sir William Wiseman, with the "Penelope," direct to the Mauritius, there to deliver this Despatch to your Excellency, with orders, if you comply with my request, to embark the regiment which may be put under orders for South Africa, and to proceed with it direct to the Buffalo Mouth, where it will be landed and placed under the orders of Lieut.-General Jackson.

5. It being of great importance that Her Majesty's Government should as early as possible learn the strength of the force which is placed at the disposal of Lieut.-General Jackson, I beg that your Excellency will communicate direct to the Secretary of State the measures you may adopt on the receipt of this despatch, as your communication with England is at present quicker than that from this colony.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Governor of the Mauritius. (Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. 5 in No. 9.

Enclosure 5 in No. 9.

Secretary's Office, Graham's Town,

SIR, April 12, 1856.

I AM directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to transmit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the enclosed communications from * * * * * * and * * * * * this day received, on the subject of the native tribes on our immediate border.

* * * 's letter being in original, I have to request that it may be returned to this office.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary. (Signed) R. SOUTHEY.

Sub-Encl. 1 in Encl. No. 5.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in Enclosure No. 5.

(Private and Confidential.)

SIR, April 7, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Honour the Lieutenant Governor, that circumstances of some interest have recently come to my knowledge, which if true, should not for a moment be withheld from Government. I am aware that it would be highly impolitic to give credence to every idle rumour, which might cause unnecessary

apprehension; but when it is known that a feeling of disquietude is slumbering among the native tribes on the border, which only requires a trifling impetus to call it into action, and that emissaries are said to be in active communication with the chiefs, any information touching their views and intended movements should not be lightly passed over. I have, therefore, considered it my duty to obtain such intelligence as appeared to me entitled to consideration, as coming from a native, in confidential communication with a gentleman, from whom, under the same terms, I had the following particulars:—

That Moshesh has come to the determination that the farmers now in possession of the disputed territory shall be driven out by force of arms, and that Kreli, Faku, and Sandilli, have offered to co-operate with him for that purpose, but that Moshesh does not require their assistance to accomplish the expulsion of the farmers. That the chiefs are to combine in an attack upon the colony at the same moment that Moshesh attacks the farmers, to prevent the Colonial Government from sending succour to that quarter. That Moshesh will easily eject the farmers, after which he will help the chiefs against the colony. That should Sandilli not succeed in vanquishing the colonists, and be compelled to vacate his land, then Moshesh will give him land in his country.

That the Tambookies will not join the confederate chiefs, but will seize the opportunity of renewing the quarrel with Kreli, and thus prevent him from taking part against the colony. It is, however, understood that all the minor chiefs will join Sandilli, and that war may be expected as soon as the crops are off the ground.

The above is the substance of the information given by a Tambookie, who appears to be well informed of what is passing between the chiefs, and in a position to observe their movements, and has promised my informant that upon the first indication of a hostile intention, he will immediately give him notice; and his Honour may be assured that I shall lose no time in giving intelligence that may be of interest.

I have thought proper to designate the letter "private and confidential," because I do not think the subject sufficiently authentic to give it the usual publicity.

I have, &c.

The Secretary to the Lieut.-Governor, Graham's Town. (Signed) * * *

Sub-Enclosure 2 in Enclosure No. 5.

Sub-Encl. 2 in Encl. No. 5.

Sir, April 6, 1856.

I deem it my duty to report to you, for the information of the authorities * * * * * * * * * * that there is a good deal of alarm and excitement going on amongst the farmers residing under the Stormberg, arising from a report which they have in circulation amongst them, that the Tambookies are going to *break out immediately*, and are trekking together for mutual protection. How and on what foundation this report has arisen I cannot say. I have no doubt that one great cause for alarm and suspicion with the farmers is the constant moving from the colony into Tambookieland of natives with their stock, &c.; this has been going for some time, and to a very large extent, and certainly does look suspicious; but then again, when you take into consideration, that natives coming out of the colony are searched, and in no one instance has any powder been found in their possession, (only a few bullets and a few pieces of pewter have occasionally been found,) it does not look as if they were moving out for any warlike purpose. From what I can see and hear, I do not think there is any indication of an outbreak. It is only about a week ago, I rode through the Tambookie location, and found them civil and appearently settled; they have not reaped their crops yet of mealies and Kaffir corn, which are just ripe, and I also saw that they were breaking up fresh ground for next year's crop.

I also saw a great number of cattle, which from my previous experience, I have generally seen sent away before an outbreak, with the exception of a few cows, &c. for immediate use. Under these circumstances, therefore, which are only my own views on the subject, (I may be wrong,) I see no immediate danger of an outbreak.

On the 3d instant I sent three men through the Tambookie location to Mr. * * * for the purpose of taking over the two rebels apprehended at the Waasch Bank; they returned again with the two rebels through the Tambookie location on the 4th instant, and saw nothing suspicious about the natives they passed through, but on the other hand found them civil and quiet; they also called at a trader's station (a Mr. * * *), and from him they heard that everything was going on as usual (although at Mr. * * * they hear Mr. * * * had been obliged to fly and leave his station); they also report that there was great excitement at Mr. * * * 's several farmers from the neighbourhood had trekked together there, and were making preparations for defence by barricading the houses, &c.

The Civil Commissioner of the district has gone up in that neighbourhood for the purpose of investigating the whole matter, and will, I have no doubt, on his return report all particulars to the Government.

I trust, therefore, I have merely done my duty in putting you and the authorities in possession of these particulars.

I have, &c.

(Signed) * * * *

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Encl.6 in No. 9.

(Private.) Enclosure 6 in No. 9.

STATEMENT of MR. * * * of Graham's Town, to R. SOUTHEY—April 12, 1856.

I HAVE received letters from * * * who is now in Kaffirland, telling me that he is convinced from what he sees and hears that the Gaika Kaffirs are preparing for war, and that they calculate on receiving support from Moshesh and Faku. * * * thinks that the time fixed on for commencing hostilities is when their crops, which they are now gathering, are harvested. He says that messengers from Moshesh are now in Sandilli's country.

* * * obtains his principal information from a native chief; this same chief came to * * * at Graham's Town in 1850, and warned him of the war then impending. He has now again told him to be on his guard; and so satisfied is * * * that there is danger of an outbreak, he has written to me not to enter into any further arrangements for supplying grain to the commissariat at King William's Town, with reference to which I was in correspondence with Mr. * * *.

* * * thinks that if the Government intimated to Moshesh that they were aware of his communications with Sandilli, and gave him to understand that in the event of any thing occurring his country would be taken from him and given to other native tribes, it would have a good effect.

April 12, 1856. (Signed) R. SOUTHEY.

Encl. 7. in No. 9.

Enclosure 7 in No. 9.

Secretary's Office, Graham's Town,

SIR, April 19, 1856.

April 7, 1856.

I AM directed by his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to transmit, for his Excellency the Governor's information, the enclosed communication from the Civil Commissioner of Queen's Town on the subject referred to in Mr. * * * 's letter to * * * transmitted to you with my letter of the 12th instant.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary. (Signed) R. SOUTHEY.

P.S.—I shall feel obliged by these Enclosures (which are in original) being returned.—R. S.

Sub-Encl. in Encl. No. 7.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure No. 7.

Civil Commissioner's Office, Queen's Town,

SIR, April 7, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report that on the 3d instant I received a letter from Mr. Field Cornet Linton that certain farmers in his ward had taken alarm at some rumours which they had heard to the effect that a Kaffir outbreak was about to take place, and were therefore moving together for mutual protection.

I considered it expedient that I should immediately proceed to his Field Cornetcy and ascertain what the cause of this alarm was, and for that purpose started from this early the following morning, taking with me Field Cornet Webster, whose ward adjoins that of Mr. Linton, in case the alarm might have reached any part of his Field Cornetcy, he might be ready to carry out any instructions. On my arrival in Mr. Linton's ward I found that this alarm only existed with a few of the inhabitants, two of whom were grantees. I inquired into the several causes they had for alarm, a memorandum of which I herewith enclose, together with the explanation and conclusions I made on them; and I am happy to state that they all appeared satisfied and thankful for my coming among them and disabusing their minds of the wrong impressions they had received.

On the same day that I received Mr. Linton's letter, I forwarded it to the Tambookie agent for report, and I have now the honour to enclose copy of it for the information of his Honour the Lieutenant Governor.

I have, &c.

R. Southey, Esq., (Signed) W. G. B. SHEPSTONE,

Secretary to Government, Graham's Town. Civil Commissioner.

SIR, Gretna, April 3, 1856.

I HAVE to inform you that the inhabitants of this ward are trekking together for mutual protection. The Kaffirs are fully prepared for war. Manell told Francis Bentley that they would commence on the third new moon. But I think if they do commence it will be after they have got all their garden stuffs in, which will be very soon, and we are completely without either powder or lead.

Can you let me have 500 lbs. of powder, and 1,000 lbs. of lead from Queen's Town? If so I shall send a waggon for it.

If it is not to be had in town, can you not give me an order on Burghers Dorp for the

amount required? Should it not be required for immediate use I shall return it to you. All the Kaffir servants left their masters on Tuesday night last. A Hottentot of Hans Hattingh's, Bird's River, told Walter Bradfield that they would be all "cased" fast in their doors one morning soon. This, with many other little remarks, tends to show that there is something to be expected.

I am, &c.
(Signed) C. LINTON,
Acting Field Cornet.

To W. G. B. Shepstone, Esq.,
&c. &c.

Civil Commissioner's Office, Queen's Town,
April 3, 1856.

SIR,

I ENCLOSE copy of a letter of this day's date, just received from Field Cornet Linton, reporting that all the Kaffir servants in his ward absconded from their masters on the night of Tuesday last, that many reports calculated to create excitement are abroad, and that the grantees in his ward are assembling for mutual protection, &c.

The Civil Commissioner proceeds at once to Groet Vley, in order to allay, if possible, this extravagant excitement; but, at the same time, is desirous of knowing your opinion on the present state of the Tambookie location, and whether you think there has been any unusual excitement among the Tambookies during the past week, or any other information which you can furnish.

Mr. Shepstone, all being well, will return to this to-morrow evening, when he trusts to find your report good.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. W. H. GIDDY,
Clerk to Civil Commissioner, Queen's Town.

J. C. Warner,
Tambookie Agent, Residency.

Tambookie Residency, April 4, 1856.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, together with copy of letter received by the Civil Commissioner of Queen's Town from Mr. Field Cornet Linton, referring to the excitement among the farmers of his ward, occasioned by the Kaffir servants having absconded from their masters, and by a statement, said to have been made by the Chief Manel, to one Francis Bentley, to the effect that they, the Kaffirs, intended to commence war on the 3d new moon, and requesting me to transmit to the Civil Commissioner my opinion as to the present state of the Tambookie location, and whether I think there has been any unusual excitement among the Tambookies during the past week.

In reply, I beg to state that, with regard to the "trekking" of the Tambookies' servants from the colony, I have no reason to alter the opinions I expressed in my letter to you on that subject, dated the 11th ultimo. I may add that, in addition to the reasons there given for this "trek," there seems to be a conviction on the minds of those thus trekking, that war of some kind is very likely to result in this country from our war with the Russians, and that, in such case, they would prefer being with their chiefs in their own country to remaining in the service of the colonists. They say that those who remained faithful in the service of the colonists, during the late war, were generally employed as cattle and sheep herds, in which situation they were exposed to danger from both colonists and Kaffirs, and that they do not wish to be in such an awkward position a second time.

I have detained your messenger until now (3 o'clock P.M.) in order to communicate with Manel respecting the statement of Mr. Francis Bentley. That chief has just this moment arrived, and utterly denies ever having made any such statement as the one in question, either to Mr. Francis Bentley or to any other person whatever.

In conclusion, I beg to say that there has been no unusual excitement among the Tambookies, either during the past week or for some time past, neither does there appear to be the least indication of a warlike tendency among the tribes under my jurisdiction.

Nevertheless, we cannot be too much on our guard, as I am fully convinced that some three or four attempts have been made, during the past three years, by prophets to stir up the warlike propensities of the Kaffir tribes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. C. WARNER,
Tambookie Agent.

R. W. H. Giddy, Esq.,
Civil Commissioner's Office, Queen's Town.

NOTES.

Mr. FRANCIS BENTLEY, a farmer, residing near "Buffalo Thorns," states that a Tambookie, whom he requested to give information as to whether a war was about to take

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place, and that he would reward him if he gave true information, informed him that a war would take place some time or other—could not say when—but that it would commence far back in the colony, but did not say between whom or when; and that he would endeavour to ascertain further particulars, when he would again inform Mr. Bentley.

Mr. Bentley denies ever having said that Manel told him there would ever be a war; he had not seen Manel for some time, and never spoke to Manel on the subject of war.

Remark.—This statement speaks for itself; Mr. Bentley does not tell us who or what the Kaffir is. The war, he tells us, will commence "far back" in the colony, but does not know when; by all of which it appears that the Kaffir fabricated a story to secure the reward offered by Mr. Bentley.

Mr. Thomas Eastland states, that on Sunday, 30th March last, a Mantatee, in the employ of Mr. Joseph Wiggill, was in the Buffalo Thorns country, in Tambookieland, in search of a servant who had absconded from Mr. Wiggill; he returned, stating that he met two men returning from the borders of Kreli's country, and that they were going to the chief Manel to report that Kreli had taken a large number of cattle belonging to Manel, and to request Manel to send a commando to retake them. But he (Wiggill's servant) found no young Kaffirs at any of the kraals he visited; he was informed they were gone to a great dance. The mother of the boy he was searching for informed him that there was to be a great war in the land, and that "Umlangeni" had sent word from the great war across the seas that they were to withdraw all their people from among the white men; did not say with whom the war was to be: he further said that every sign of war prevailed, as all were getting and seeking assegais, and even pickaxes were being made into assegais, and that the most of the men he met were armed with assegais. That he did not believe the quarrel between the Tambookies and Kreli's people to be true, but only a blind. This man speaks Kaffir, he has been about three years in the colony, serving entirely among the farmers. My own servant, a Mantatee (Hector), who has been in the colony from infancy, and never lived in Kaffirland, also gives some information. Hector states that about nine days since he was proceeding to Tambookiland, when he met Vadana's eldest son, who, after inquiring about a lad from his kraal in my master's employ, and requesting me to send him home, which he refused till he gave his reasons, he said that there was very shortly to be a war, and it was because they could not come into the colony without being apprehended by the police. He then warned him that if it became known to the English, he would kill him the first opportunity that should occur. He met Vadana's son at night, on the high road, with three followers.

Mr. Eastland continues:—On Monday the 31st March, this same boy came back from Mr. Warner's to be contracted, and reported that a great meeting was being held at the regent Nonesi's kraal, which could not be for the consideration of any other subject than war; he brought a man with him to take his place while he had to go back to be circumcised. That there was a rumour that Umlangeni had been seen by one of Nonesi's people, whom he informed that there would be a great war, and that the stones of the mountains would turn into Kaffirs.

Mr. Wiggill's servant proves to be a Mantatee, who has been in the neighbourhood of the Kaffirs among the colonists about 18 months; doubtful as to whether he can speak Kaffir; tells a direct falsehood in that pickaxes are being converted into assegais, as there does not happen to be any assegai smiths in that part of the country. It is a daily occurrence that young men go to all dances. It is a common thing for Kaffirs travelling, on being asked what they are going for, to answer for assegais; it implies, to ask for a friendly gift.

The Mantatee states that cattle were reported to have been taken from Tambookies by Kreli's people, and it is natural that when cattle are being stolen, that men generally carry some, if not all, their assegais with them. In going to a dance this is also usual. It is not probable that a Kaffir woman would tell a man not belonging even to her tribe, not speaking the same language, and an utter stranger to her, all that he reports having heard from her.

Hector's statement is out of all character with the acts of a young man the son of a chief. Hector states he met the young chief in the night, on a high road, with three followers, and then divulged the secret to him. Hector is a Mosuto, brought up from childhood among the white people, and it is very improbable that any Kaffir would divulge so serious a matter to one whose interests and sympathies are not in common with theirs.

A true copy of rough notes.

(Signed) R. W. H. Giddy,
Clerk to Civil Commissioners.

Encl. 8. in No. 9.

Enclosure 8 in No. 9.

A short time ago I sent one of my men to the Konap and Mancanzana; he returned a day or two ago, and states that he was several days among the Fingoes and Kaffirs in that locality. There are upwards of one hundred (100) Kaffir men with their families living on the Konap and Mancanzana. They are in constant communication with the Praamberg Kaffirs; that messengers are constantly going from one to the other; that they are parti-

cularly active at present. The greater part of them are armed with guns, and from the frequent hunts they appear to be very well off for ammunition, though where they get it he could not find out. There is also a Gona, one of Field Cornet Botha's men, living there. He was engaged during the war against the colony, and has only a short time ago arrived from beyond the Kei. The greater part of the Kaffirs are from Sandilli's tribe. They have a good many cattle and goats, and a few sheep; they hire the ground from the farmers. The nearest farmhouse is about four miles from them, and they are living in a wild state, no person connected with Government ever going near them. They are in the district of Somerset.

Enclosure 9 in No. 9. Encl. 9 in No. 9.

My Dear Sir,

Our position with the native tribes is at the present moment very critical. An extensive combination is forming, and all the frontier tribes have waived their different disagreements to join in another attempt to gain back their land, when the time shall have arrived to suit their views to commence. A deal rests with Moshesh over the Orange River. He is urging the Kaffirs on to strike the first blow down here, when he will, or promises to, commence over the river. The Kaffirs, on their part, urge Moshesh to open the ball over the river, as having a better pretext of an unsettled boundary question. It is probable that, through the hesitancy of the two leading tribes, the striking of the blow may be deferred until after the winter has passed, unless the Boers, by urging the settlement of the boundary question, precipitate the matter. It remains to be seen what effect the news of peace with Russia will have in leading them to despair of success. A deal of the present dissatisfaction has been brought about by the advice of those gentlemen who have been so clamorous for justice for the natives. More than one of the natives, whose names I dare not mention, have told me in plain terms that repeated messages have been sent them from high quarters that, if they wished to gain anything from the British Government, and to be respected, they must fight, and a combination was their only chance of ultimate success. The Fingoes, with a very few exceptions, show a very good feeling towards the Government, and I think will remain loyal. The most determined mover in the present agitation is Pato, and half of Kama's, with his eldest son, will go with Pato. A very ingenious mode is pursued to signify what chiefs will join in the outbreak. For instance, Lynx, Umlangeni, Mazonda, Gazela, Seyolo, are reported to have risen, and are on their way to join their respective tribes, signifying that the tribes to which they did belong are part of the present combination.

The increase of mounted police on the border will have a good effect in checking a sudden inroad.

The increased business caused by the circuit prevents my extending this.

I have, &c.

No. 10. No. 10.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No.33.) Cape Town, April 30, 1856.

(Received July 14, 1856.)

Sir, (Answered No. 78, July 14, 1856, page 62.)

Adverting to my Despatch,* No. 32, of the 24th inst., regarding apprehended disturbances on the frontier of this Colony, I have the honour to state that I have received a further letter from the Lieut.-General, dated 22d inst., that is, seven days later than the letter from him which I last enclosed to you. * Page 20.

2. In this last communication the Lieut.-General states that authentic reports daily confirm an intended irruption into the Colony on the part of the native tribes. That it appears Moshesh is now for the first time in alliance with the tribes on our immediate frontier, and that the Lieut.-General learns from public and private sources that the white inhabitants of the free state are in daily expectation of a conflict with the Basutos under Moshesh. The Lieut.-General further states, in a private letter, that all accounts appear to agree that amongst the tribes in British Kaffraria, Pato and his sons are the chiefs most prominently engaged in the present movement. Enclosure No. 1. Lieut.-General Jackson to Sir G. Grey. April 22, 1856.

3. For these reasons the General pressed me to send up a reinforcement of 300 men of the 73d Regiment under Colonel Pinckney, a very able officer, who has much distinguished himself in this country. In compliance with the request of the Lieut.-General, the reinforcement which he has asked for has

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this day embarked for Algoa Bay, on board Her Majesty's ship "Castor," there being no steamer disposable for sending them.

4. Having thus put you in possession of the views of the Lieut.-General, I beg to state that my opinion still is that we have no sufficient evidence that any combination has been entered into for offensive purposes amongst the native tribes, nor do I think that there is any reason to apprehend any immediate outbreak on the part of the natives on our frontier.

Enclosure No. 2. 5. Since I had last the honour of addressing you, I have received a letter, copy of which is enclosed, which was addressed to me on the part of Moshesh, on the 10th of April, which is of a very peaceable nature.

Enclosure No. 3. 6. I have also received from British Kaffraria a letter dated 18th April, from which it will be found that Pato and his sons, the chiefs most suspected, have, in compliance with a promise which Pato made me, after much trouble, succeeded in apprehending a Kaffir who attempted to murder a European, and that they have delivered the prisoner over to the proper authorities; such a proceeding, upon his part, appears to prove his present fidelity.

7. Generally the reports from British Kaffraria still describe that province as in a state of tranquillity and prosperity.

8. Although expressing these favourable views regarding our present position, I admit that the state of affairs in the Orange Free State is such as to demand the greatest care and caution on our part, as any negligence or want of preparation might induce the natives to seize an opportunity of attacking us, which, I have no doubt, many of them would be glad to do, had they fair prospects of success.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. 1 in No. 10.

Enclosure in No 10.

Head Quarters, Graham's Town, April 22, 1856.

SIR,

FINDING that authentic reports daily confirm the rumours of an approaching irruption of the native tribes, as communicated to your Excellency by my letter of the 15th instant, and observing by accounts both public and private, received yesterday from the Free State, that the white population of that territory are in daily expectation of a conflict with the Basutos, which directly corroborates the statements I have already sent forward to you, I have the honour to submit to your Excellency, that under these circumstances, and from the fact of the chief Moshesh having for the first time appeared in alliance with our more neighbouring tribes, which will add essentially to the complication of native affairs and to the vast increase of their power both numerically as well as in ample stores of arms and ammunition, if not vigorously met in the outset, it now becomes not only advisable, but absolutely necessary that reinforcements of troops should be forthwith provided, in order effectively to prevent war, which will be found an easier task than to restore peace, if once broken; and I therefore request that in the first instance 300 men of the 73d Regiment, under Lieut.-Colonel Pinckney, may be forthwith sent round from Cape Town to the mouth of the Buffalo River, as their appearance at this juncture in Kaffirland would, undoubtedly, be productive of the best effect. And as I trust your Excellency has favourably considered the suggestions I had the honour to lay before you in my letter of the 15th instant, which I again take the liberty of strongly impressing upon your notice, I think it may be found convenient to embark the 73d Regiment in the ship intended to proceed to the Mauritius, and to land them at East London on her passage.

Instructions for Lieut.-Colonel Pinckney, in a letter from the Deputy Quartermaster-General, are herewith enclosed, and which I beg your Excellency may direct to be sent to that officer, if your opinion, as I hope it will, coincides with mine as to the great importance of meeting this matter with promptness and decision.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir George Grey, K. C. B., &c., &c., &c.

(Signed) J. JACKSON, Lieut.-General, C. F.

Encl. 2 in No. 10.

Enclosure 2 in No. 10.

MONSEIGNEUR,

Thaba Bosigo, Avril 10, 1856.

LE chef Moshesh me prie de vous informer que depuis longtemps déjà, votre honorée lettre datée du 8 Decembre 1855 lui est parvenue. Il a été sensible aux conseils de vigilance que votre Excellence lui donne, et il désire les mettre en pratique pour la prospérité de son peuple. Il me charge aussi de vous présenter ses sentiments de vive gratitude pour la carte que votre Excellence lui a donnée, mais surtout pour l'institution dont vous voulez doter sa tribu.

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Au mois de Novembre dernier les Missionaires Francais dévoués à l'évangélisation des Bassoutos, se sont réunis en conférence extraordinaire à Beersheba, dans le but de s'occuper de la question de l'institut projeté par votre Excellence. Une commission composée de cinq de ses membres a été nommée pour examiner les lieux destinés pour la fondation de cet établissement, et elle a présenté à Moshesh un document relatif à la concession des terrains nécessaires. Le chef ayant désiré de s'entretenir avec ses fils à ce sujet, il s'en est suivi de longs retards, et ce n'est que vers la fin du mois de Mars que le document signé m'a été remis. Il sera sous peu envoyé à votre Excellence.

Moshesh a appris par une lettre de Mons. Casalis, que votre Excellence désirait lui faire une visite, et il en est aussi honoré que rejoui.

Veuillez agréer, Monseigneur, avec les pressantes salutations du chef Moshesh, l'assurance de mon entier dévoûment.

(Signed) Théop. Sousse, V.D.M.

A son Excellence le Gouverneur de la Colonie
du Cap de Bonne Espérance.

Encl. 3 in No. 10.

Enclosure 3 in No. 10.

Sir, Fort Murray, April 18, 1855.

I have much pleasure in reporting to you that this day the chief Pato handed to me a Kaffir of his own tribe, named Nkohla, whom he charges with having assaulted Samuel Nash, at Fort Pato. The prisoner has made a full confession of his guilt, and has been forwarded by me under escort to the resident magistrate at King William's Town.

I have further to acquaint you that the prisoner was, after some trouble, apprehended by Pato's son, Delema.

I have thanked Pato for the apprehension of the prisoner on the part of the Government, and have informed him that he will be further thanked on the return of Colonel Maclean, the Chief Commissioner.

I have, &c.

The Chief Commissioner, King William's Town. (Signed) John Ayliff,
Acting Hlambie Commissioner.

Preliminary examination of Nkohla, a Kaffir of Pato's tribe, at Fort Murray, the 18th day of April 1856, who, being duly warned that any statement made by him may be brought as evidence against him, states:—I left my kraal at the sea early one morning and proceeded to Fort Pato, at which place I arrived after dark. I went to the door of the shop, which was partly open. I had a stone in one hand and an assegai in the other. I stamped with my foot on the ground to attract the notice of the Englishman who was in the shop, who came to the door. I struck him on the head with the stone. He came forward and tried to grapple with me, when I brought round my hand with the assegai to try and ward him off, when I stabbed him in the breast. I then ran away and went into the bush on the left-hand side of the road leading from that place to East London. My reason for assaulting Nash was to rob him of a blanket.

Mark of + Nkohla.

Witnesses to mark:
Mark of + Paku,
Serjeant of Police.
Mark of + Umyando.

Before me, at Fort Murray, in British Kaffraria, this 18th day of April 1856.
(Signed) John Ayliff, J.P.,
Acting Hlambie Commissioner.

No. 11.

No. 11.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(Confidential.) Cape Town, May 30, 1856.
(Received July 28, 1856.)

Sir, (Answered No. 85, August 5, 1856 page 62.)

Her Majesty's steamer "Devastation" arrived here yesterday, bringing out Major Grant, who was charged to communicate with me regarding the settlement of the Anglo-German Legion in this colony, and I had at the same time the honour of receiving your confidential Despatch* of the 25th of March last, relating to the same subject.

* Page 59.

2. If the inhabitants of the colony are favourable to the proposed plan, there will be no difficulty in carrying it out. The sites which I had selected as

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locations for the enrolled pensioners will equally suit the Anglo-German Legion, and there is abundance of good land for them. So far, therefore, every necessary preparation has been made.

3. The plan for settling the Anglo-German Legion, as detailed in the instructions to Major Grant, is, in its main outlines, well adapted to the circumstances of this country, and I can readily carry it out.

4. If adopted, it will, as far as human foresight can reach, put an end to Kaffir wars, and to the vast war expenditure which Great Britain has hitherto from time to time, had to defray in this country. It is very opportune, at the present moment, when the Kaffirs, from believing we have been defeated by the Russians, are threatening to become insolent and daring, and the Lieut.-General has consequently written to me, asking, in addition to the regiment I have already sent for to the Mauritius, for a further reinforcement of a regiment of cavalry, and for four or five battalions of infantry.

5. Fortunately when I received your Despatch of the 25th March, the Colonial Parliament was sitting, and I immediately sent down the Message, a copy of which is enclosed, asking for a vote for 40,000*l.*, and a guarantee that a further sum from a reserved schedule, which will amount to about six or seven thousand pounds a year, should for a few years be placed at my disposal, for the purpose of building schools and churches in the military villages, to enable me to mke advances for the purpose of purchasing tools and seeds, &c., and to provide for the wants of the sick and destitute amongst the military settlers.

Enclosure Message No. 39. May 29, 1856.

6. I have every hope that these amounts will this day be voted by the House of Assembly, and I have detained for a few hours a vessel now on the point of sailing for England, in the hope that I may be able to report to you that this has been done. If I am fortunately able to do this, I would suggest that not an hour should be lost in sending out detachments of the Anglo-German Legion to this country, in vessels required to call at Algoa Bay, there either to land the men at Port Elizabeth, or to proceed with them, if required to do so, to the Buffalo Mouth. Promptitude in this respect will certainly prevent the now threatened disturbances.

7. In the meantime I shall, in four or five days, proceed with Major Grant to the frontier, that he may inspect the sites on which the detachments, as they successively arrive, will be located; and when he has acquainted himself with the country, and thoroughly mastered the details of the proposed plan, which will be in about four weeks from this time, the "Devastation" will return to England with him, reaching it, probably, within a fortnight or three weeks after this Despatch has come to your hands.

8. I beg to add, that you may rely upon my exerting myself to the very utmost to render successful the wise and prudent plan now proposed by Her Majesty's Government, which will save Great Britain from the large expenditure and constant anxiety to which Kaffir wars have so frequently subjected it, and will at the same time give rest and quiet to a constantly harassed frontier, and protection, wealth, and contentment to all this part of South Africa, whether inhabited by European or coloured races.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. in No. 11.

Enclosure in No. 11.

G. GREY, Governor. Message, No. 39.

THE Governor informs the Honourable theHouse of Assembly that Her Majesty's Government, acting upon his urgent representations as to the valuable acquisition which would be afforded to this colony by a settlement on its borders of a strong body of out-pensioners of Chelsea Hospital, on the plan which was so successfully carried out in New Zealand, and having found it impossible to induce a sufficient number of pensioners to emigrate to the Cape on similar terms, have taken into consideration the opportunity afforded by the contemplated reduction, on the restoration of peace, of the British German Legion, for ensuring to this colony the elements of a system of military colonization, of very high promise.

The number of non-commissioned officers and privates who would offer themselves, and be eligible for this service, would amount perhaps to 8,000, and it is likely that a large proportion of officers would accompany them. The greater number of the men would have wives and families, and, if it were thought desirable, others, not at present married, would be glad to enter into that state, with a prospect of a fixed settlement.

The German Legion would arrive at the Cape in complete military organization, armed with the Enfield rifle, and with camp equipage, and would be located as policy and circumstances should dictate.

Arrangements would be made for locating them permanently, as speedily as possible; and Her Majesty's Government is prepared to send out, for temporary employment in the erection of the villages, a party of engineer officers and artificers, if it be considered that such assistance be needful. In the meantime, the officers and men will be in possession of their tents.

It is proposed to commute the gratuity, to which the non-commissioned officers and privates will be entitled after their term of service has expired, into a fixed pay of 6*d.* a day, for three years, which will aid them in their subsistence, until their land shall be brought into cultivation; and for the first year Her Majesty's Government would further supply them with rations in kind, or an equivalent in money.

It will be necessary that a church, a block-house, and a school should be erected in each village for the use of these men and their families, and that a system of magistracy should be provided, either from among the officers accompanying them, or from other sources. Means will also be devised for keeping up the military exercises of the emigrants, at all events during the period of their receiving pay from Government.

Her Majesty's Government express a hope, in which the Governor is confident they will not be disappointed, that so valuable an addition to the population and defence of the colony will receive temporary encouragement and assistance from the Local Legislature; and in this expectation, he proposes to the Honourable the House of Assembly, that they should empower him to appropriate, to the settlement of these emigrants, a sum not exceeding 40,000*l.*, to be raised, if necessary, by debentures upon the security of the revenues of the colony, and that they will concur in the future appropriation to the same object, as long as it may be required, of any portion of the sum reserved in Schedule D, which may be available for such a purpose.

Government House, May 29, 1856.

No. 12. No. 12.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 39.)

Cape Town, May 30, 1856.

(Received July 26, 1856.)

Sir, (Answered No. 86, August 5, 1856, page 63.)

Adverting to your Confidential Despatch* of the 25th of March last, upon the subject of sending out the Anglo-German Legion to this country, I have time before a vessel sails to enclose copies of two addresses, which have just been adopted by the Legislative Council of this Colony, one to myself, heartily expressing their earnest desire to co-operate for the proposed measures for the location of this force in the Cape Colony.

* Page 59.

Enclosure No. 1. Address to his Excellency the Governor from Legislative Council. May 30, 1856.

2. The other, addressed to Her Majesty, heartily congratulating Her Majesty upon the peace which has been signed, and expressing their affection and gratitude to Her Majesty in terms, which, I think, must gladden Her Majesty to find that in this distant portion of Her dominions, and in a colony so large a proportion of the inhabitants of which were not originally of British descent, Her Majesty is still regarded with feelings of such fond attachment and affection. The originals shall be sent by the next mail.

Enclosure No. 2. Address of Legislative Council to Her Majesty.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure 1 in No. 12. Encl. 1 in No. 12.

To his Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B., Governor of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.

May it please your Excellency,

The Legislative Council assembled in Parliament, having carefully considered the highly important and gratifying message which your Excellency was pleased to make to them yesterday, take leave most cordially to thank your Excellency for communicating to them an event so earnestly to be desired as the return of peace, and for those gracious intentions which Her Majesty contemplates in order to preserve the lives and secure the property of the loyal subjects in this country.

The Legislative Council cannot but view the contemplated measure of locating on our exposed borders an efficient body of military settlers as the precursor of peace on our

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

frontier, and the beginning of bright and prosperous days to this country; and the Council venture to assure your Excellency that it will be prepared to promote, to the utmost of their power, the adoption of those measures which will best tend to carry into efficient and practical operation a design which, if fully carried out, is so well calculated to promote the best interests of this country.

The Legislative Council, in now addressing your Excellency, would add an expression of their hope that your Excellency will be pleased to convey to Her Majesty its grateful appreciation of the regard now shown to her devoted subjects in this colony; and that it will ever be their aim, as it is their duty, to maintain, as far as in them lies, the honour and dignity of the British Crown.

Legislative Council, May 30, 1856.

Encl. 2 in No. 12.

Enclosure 2. in No. 12.

To the QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

YOUR Majesty's faithful Legislative Council of the Cape of Good Hope having had communicated to it in Parliament assembled, by message from his Excellency the Governor Sir George Grey, the joyful intelligence of the ratification of peace between your Majesty and your illustrious Allies, and the Emperor of Russia, begs most humbly and dutifully to convey to your Majesty its heartfelt congratulations on the termination of the contest, as remarkable for the lofty moral principle in which on the part of Your Majesty it originated, as for the vigour with which it was prosecuted, the high qualities displayed by your Majesty's army and navy, and for the glorious issue of a struggle that, in all its aspects and consequences, is unprecedented in the history of the world.

The Legislative Council, while contemplating the return of peace, and the momentous social and civilized influences which ever spring from it, would give utterance to its devout gratitude to "Him who governs all things according to the counsels of His own will" for this happy event. At the same time it would take permission humbly to request that your Majesty will deign to accept, with its congratulations, its expression of profound loyalty and devotion to your Majesty's person and government.

The Legislative Council cannot be insensible to the benignity of your Majesty's rule, nor of the blessings which this colony enjoys under it in common with the other portions of your Majesty's realm. The political liberty extended to it, the protection received, the helping hand which is stretched out to it, and the encouragement so unceasingly afforded to press forward in the path of improvement, give truth to those feelings of devoted thankfulness, which must indissolubly unite it by the strong ties of affection and gratitude to the British Crown.

The announcement of your Majesty's gracious intention to locate a large body of military settlers on the borders of this colony, with a view of preserving (as far as human foresight can provide) the lives and securing the property of your Majesty's subjects, who have so grievously suffered from the inroads of the neighbouring tribes, has excited the profoundest gratitude for that care which is thus shown to maintain the peace and promote the welfare of your people in this country.

The Council now earnestly prays that it may please a beneficent Providence to grant that your Majesty may long reign in peace and prosperity over a loyal and devoted people, and that your Majesty's subjects in this colony may continue to enjoy those blessings of good government which are the common privilege of all in the wide circle of your Majesty's dominions.

No. 13.

No. 13.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 40.)

Cape Town, May 30, 1856.

SIR, (Received July 26, 1856.)

* Page 59.

IN reference to your Confidential Despatch* of the 25th of March last, relating to the settlement of the Anglo-German Legion in this Colony, I have the honour to enclose the copy of a resolution which has been just passed by the House of Assembly, appropriating the sum of 40,000*l.* and an annual amount of about 6,000*l.* or 7,000*l.* to this service. At the same time they express in the warmest terms their thanks and devotion to Her Majesty.

2. In addition to the funds thus voted, I will take care that in all the settlements lands are reserved to be hereafter sold, the proceeds to be applied in part liquidation of the cost of this plan.

3. I have necessarily written hurriedly, as the mail is on the point of closing.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure in No. 13. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Encl. in No. 13.

THIS House having taken into consideration his Excellency the Governor's message, No. 39, of the 29th May 1856, whilst expressing their gratitude to Her Majesty's Government for the anxious solicitude now again, as always, evinced by Her Majesty for the welfare of this colony, view in a most favourable light the proposed plan of locating such officers and privates of the British German Legion, who would offer themselves and be eligible for this service, as a military settlement in this colony, where policy and circumstances should dictate.

That in the opinion of this House a sum necessary for insuring the success and usefulness of such settlement would be advantageously employed for the security and general prosperity of this colony, and pledges itself to make good any amount not exceeding the sum of 40,000*l.*, which may be necessary for carrying out the objects of this plan. The House is also of opinion that any portion of the sum reserved in Schedule D. which may be available for such a purpose might be advantageously appropriated to the same object.

No. 14.

No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 46.) Cape Town, June 5, 1856.

Received September 3, 1856.

SIR, (Answered, No. 91. September 7, 1856, p. 63.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information a copy of the Speech with which I yesterday prorogued the Parliament of the Cape of Good Hope.

I beg to report that during the recent session Parliament voted liberal supplies for the efficient conduct of Her Majesty's service, and at the same time evinced the most anxious solicitude to promote the welfare of the Colony, and to co-operate with the Home Government in every measure now in progress for the final settlement of those questions which have for so many years rendered South Africa a source of expense and anxiety to Great Britain.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, (Signed) G. GREY.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 14.

Encl. in No. 14.

MR. PRESIDENT, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:

MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

I HAVE, in Her Majesty's name, given my assent to the various Bills which you have presented to me, and it shall be my earnest endeavour, now that these have become law, to bring them into speedy and beneficial operation. Amongst these measures is one by which Parliament has exercised the right of setting aside a grant of land made by the Crown. Admitting that this right vests in Parliament, I think it is one which should be exercised as rarely as possible. If, therefore, from any peculiarity in the constitution of your courts of law, an unusual difficulty presents itself in this colony, in having Crown grants, which ought not to have been made, set aside in ordinary course of law, I hope that at your next meeting, some means may be devised of obviating this difficulty, as it is manifestly better that a Crown grant, to which objections are raised, should be set aside by a formal judicial decision, after all the parties interested in the case have been heard, and after the validity of such objections have been duly proved to the satisfaction of the Court, rather than that Parliament should be called upon to interfere in these cases.

MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

I thank you for the very liberal provision which you have made for the proper conduct of Her Majesty's service, and for the various requirements of the country. The utmost shall be done to administer economically the funds which you have thus entrusted to the Government.

I have every hope that the wise generosity with which, at a time of considerable financial difficulty, you have provided such large means for aiding immigration, and for developing the resources of the country, will have the effect of carrying you easily through those difficulties, of adding largely to the revenue, and of augmenting in every respect the wealth and importance of this colony.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL;

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY;—

I trust that, as the commerce and wealth of the colony develop themselves, you will endeavour to mature some measure by which either a part of the Customs revenue, or some of the advantages which arise from its expenditure, may upon some equitable principles be shared by the states and provinces which virtually contribute to it.

At present nearly the whole trade and commerce of South Africa flows through this colony, fertilizing, as it were, the country as it flows, and enriching its inhabitants in manifold ways. The Customs' revenue is but a small part of even the public benefit which we derive from this commerce, and it in no manner represents the wealth which, by a thousand invisible streams, it brings to almost every part of the colony. It is a difficult process to divert commerce from channels which it has long occupied, but, once it is so diverted, it is even more difficult to restore it to its former course.

The trade which we carry on with the interior is yet but in its very infancy; if, then, it is now of so great and palpable advantage to this colony, who can estimate what its value will be when the vast tracts of the interior, to which emigrants are daily proceeding, swarm with a large population of Europeans, or of almost civilized native tribes? If we view the subject under this aspect, I feel sure that all must agree that every step should be taken which a prudent liberality can dictate to enter into some arrangement with the states and provinces in our vicinity, which may have the effect of binding them to us by ties of at least reciprocal mercantile advantage, and of long securing to this colony that commerce which even now is so beneficial, and which year by year acquires additional importance.

At the commencement of the session of 1855 it was my duty to lay before you the system of policy which I proposed should be pursued in reference to the frontier and British Kaffraria. That line of policy has been steadily adhered to by the Government. At the time it was received with general approval on your part, and you have since cordially co-operated in every step which the Government has taken in regard to it.

Its entire attainment appeared, from its magnitude, to be difficult and remote; but still, aided by your wisdom and experience, and cheered by your co-operation and sympathy, I patiently, with you as my fellow-labourers, worked on towards the end we had in view, and which I never doubted that we should ultimately reach. It becomes me, therefore, on this occasion, to thank you for the aid and confidence which you have afforded me, and, together with you, to rejoice at the rapid advances we now appear likely to make to the ends we so anxiously desired to reach.

You, I am sure, in common with myself, feel grateful to that Divine Providence which has guided this colony through so many difficulties to the present point, at which so bright a future appears opening to it. Rising above those local and selfish views, you have indeed, by your addresses, shown the gratitude and joy with which you view the honourable peace which has recently been concluded, and which appears likely to secure such advantages to the whole of Europe.

The feelings you have on this occasion expressed will be most gratifying to Her Majesty, and are due to the Queen, who, throughout the recent great war in which Her empire was engaged, felt so anxious a solicitude for the safety and welfare of this colony, that, pressed as Great Britain was for troops, Her Majesty, nevertheless, always maintained here that large and efficient force which your necessities required, and whose first thought, subsequently to the conclusion of the Peace, has been how from that auspicious event advantages might be derived which might for ever secure this colony from those devastating wars which have so often brought ruin to its inhabitants.

I thank you for your attendance during the present session of Parliament, an attendance which has, I am aware, been attended by personal loss and inconvenience to many of you, for which you must, however, in a great measure feel compensated by the advantages which you have been enabled to secure to the colony.

I now, in Her Majesty's name, prorogue this Parliament of Her Majesty's settlement of the Cape of Good Hope to Wednesday the 22d day of October next, and it is hereby prorogued accordingly.

No. 15.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 50.) Cape Town, June 6, 1856.

(Received Sept 3, 1856.)

SIR, (Answered No 99, October 1, 1856, page 64.)

Enclosure. Despatch of Lieut.-Gen. Jackson, May 5, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, copy of a Despatch which I recently received from Lieutenant-General Sir James Jackson, acquainting me with his belief of the inclination and determination of the whole Kaffir race to make common war against the Colony and Her Majesty's troops, and pressing on me the necessity of immediately applying to Her Majesty's

Government for a reinforcement of at least four battalions of infantry and a regiment of cavalry.

2. The question of the requisite reinforcement being sent to this country having been set at rest, by the announcement of the intention of Her Majesty's Government to send here the Anglo-German Legion, I have only to remark, that I do not think the combination against us amongst the Native tribes is nearly so general or extensive as some persons have led the Lieutenant-General to imagine.

3. It must, however, be borne in mind, that in speaking thus, I am now in possession of more extensive and later information than the Lieutenant-General had when he wrote the enclosed letter; moreover, the Lieutenant-General, as I have repeatedly pointed out, has always had to form his opinion in a very difficult position, which must have made any man nervously anxious; for the distribution of his force was such, from its being broken up into small and very isolated detachments, that we should have been in extreme danger if a war had broken out; whilst any attempt to reduce our detachments, or to abandon any of the posts we held, would probably have been the immediate signal for the very war which it was so necessary, if possible, to avoid. I am anxious to state this circumstance, for both Her Majesty's Government and myself are much indebted to the Lieutenant-General for the cheerful manner in which, in order to promote the public service, he has for so long borne a very serious responsibility, rather than make complaints which would have been very embarrassing to the Government, and which it would have been very difficult to have remedied.

4. With regard to the alleged general combination into which it is thought by some persons that the native chiefs have entered, I believe that Moshesh has sent embassies to some of the chiefs, in the hope of gaining support if he was attacked; encouraged, perhaps, in this from his apparent success in the affair of the Berea. That some of those who have heard of his proceedings in this respect have been further encouraged by believing that we have been worsted by the Russians; and that this feeling, by leading them to hope for support from the Russians, has led them not to cultivate their plantations, from which cause considerable destitution will ensue in one part of the country. This, however, I can relieve, by affording the people employment on the public works; and with regard to our having been defeated in Europe, the arrival of the reinforcements now about to be sent here will soon dispel that illusion. If, therefore, the first detachments of the Anglo-German Legion can reach this country early in November next, although it would be better if they could arrive earlier, I think Her Majesty's Government may confidently expect that no further disturbances will take place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

To the Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 15.

Enclosure in No. 15.

SIR, Head Quarters, Graham's Town, May 5, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the enclosed deposition of a confidential and trustworthy Kaffir, which I have just received from Mr. * * * *.

Your Excellency will be able to judge how forcibly this deposition confirms the statements I have already sent to you from other sources, leaving no doubt of the inclination and determined intentions of the whole Kaffir race to make common war against the colony and Her Majesty's troops.

By this, as well as the previous information I have received, it would appear that the period for commencing hostilities is not yet decided by the Kaffir chiefs; but all goes to prove that the time is not far distant, being apparently influenced by the relations of the inhabitants of the Orange Free State with Moshesh, which we know are imminently threatening and precarious.

It is also very probable that the prompt measures which your Excellency has taken to obtain a regiment from the Mauritius, and to send up the wing of the 73d Regiment, will temporarily check the progress of this formidable coalition; I say, temporarily, because I cannot think, nor does my information lead me to believe that so small an addition of force will do more; and I therefore most impressively repeat my hope that your Excellency will see the extreme necessity for immediately applying to H.M. Government for such

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

number, say, four battalions of infantry at least, with a regiment of cavalry and company of sappers, as can be spared, if the European war is ended, or, if not, of several militia regiments, in order effectually to annihilate the restless and all pervading disposition of the Kaffir tribes, and their auxiliaries, to destroy the white population of this land.

Your Excellency is already fully aware of the distribution of the troops on this frontier and in British Kaffraria, which remains with little if any alteration as left by the late Sir George Cathcart.

This distribution was made at the conclusion of the late war, by placing small detachments into temporary field works, for the purpose of preventing the Kaffirs from re-occupying the lands from which their rebellious acts had caused them to be expelled, and also for keeping open the communication between our principal stations.

The barrack accommodation in the advanced districts being extremely limited, these field works were constructed as temporary cover for the troops, in preference to leaving them under canvas; but they are now very much dilapidated.

I must confess that I do not consider this distribution as at all calculated to encounter an attack from a numerous and well-armed mass of natives; the number of the detachments and the smallness of the garrisons, moreover, offering a tempting inducement to an enemy to make an endeavour to overpower them seriatim, in the hope of obtaining possession of arms and the magazines of powder.

Two posts on the Buffalo line are especially open to this serious objection. Forts "Pato" and "Grey" have become deteriorated through age, and materially damaged by the late violent rains; though every effort has been made to restore them with the very limited means at our disposal.

I am unwilling to make any change in the present distribution without your Excellency's concurrence, aware, as I am, that political motives might render such change inexpedient as indicative of weakness; but weak we certainly are, having no reserves of any strength, and such as they are, barely sufficient, if at all, to keep open a communication with the two seaports, particularly in the event of Pato's tribe intervening between King William's Town and the coast. The arrival of the expected regiment from the Mauritius will, however, partially remove the difficulty there, and to secure the line from Port Elizabeth to Graham's Town and Fort Beaufort, as well as to protect our principal military stores and magazines, I propose for the present to detain the head-quarter wing of the 73d in this neighbourhood, on its arrival, in addition to the four companies of the 6th Regiment now stationed here.

This, I shall, of course, alter according to circumstances; but those of experience in former wars inform me that the T'Slambie tribes under Pato, Umhala, &c., invariably overrun the district of Albany, from the impenetrable fastnesses of the Fish River Bush, which they occupy in great force in the first instance, and to prevent them doing so in the outset is said to be impossible; by moving my whole force, therefore, into Kaffraria, I should find myself operating with the great body of the enemy on my rear, and no troops to oppose them, or convoy my supplies from the sea, or protect my magazines here.

I am in great hopes, however, that unless precipitated by the Boers of the Free State against Moshesh, that nothing serious will occur immediately; and I think the appearance of the "Penelope," with troops from the Mauritius, at the Buffalo River, will tend to postpone a rupture on the part of the natives, until the arrival of reinforcements from England, which I should hope would arrive not later than next September, and which I feel confident are the only means of securely arresting and putting down for ever this unprovoked but formidable combination, and of saving the colony from disaster, and the mother country from a profitless, protracted, and most expensive war.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) J. Jackson,
Lieut.-General Commanding the Forces.

Sub-Encl. in No. 15.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 15.

Depositions of a confidential Kaffir sent from Fort Beaufort.

I went to Fort White, and from there to King William's Town, and from there to Pato's people. Pato himself and his sons I found all willing and ready to make war, more so than any of the others.

They often in their conversations fix upon a day when it is to begin, and they say such and such a day will be the best to begin. They are, however, all waiting anxiously to hear news from beyond the Orange River, as this is to be Moshesh's war.

Pato's people have not planted this year, and they kill cattle almost every day.

I think them the most prepared for mischief of any; some of Toise's people have planted, but not all; they will also join with the others, but they do not talk quite so strong as Pato's men.

Macomo and Sandilli appear to be undecided, but they are very cunning, and will not show their ideas as the others do.

Kreili sent some messengers up to Moshesh a short time ago, and others came from Moshesh to him.

The Tambookies will, I think, also take part in the war, as also the greater part of Kama's people. Some of Kama's old men who fought for the colony will come out, but the greater part of the tribe will go with the rest of the Kaffirs.

Moshesh will be the leading man when it begins.

The Hottentots who are now living on the Kei will also join. They have joined the Kaffirs, and many of them have taken Kaffir women for wives; they wear karosses, the same as the Kaffirs, and some of the men have been circumcised.

The Fingoes will not join the Kaffirs, but will, to a man almost, hold with the Government: I speak of those near Fort Beaufort, Queen's Town, Block Drift (Alice), and the Amatolas. I do not know for certain about those living near Fort Peddie (Joqueni's men), as I have not been amongst them. There are Kaffirs visiting them almost every day, and asking them to take a part in the war.

There will be a great meeting of the chiefs soon, and the great men of all the tribes will be there, but I could not hear when or where for certain. I do not think it quite decided yet.

The war, in my opinion, is certain to come, but when I do not know, but perhaps not before the spring.

There was a story at some of the kraals that a number of old men (warriors) had arrived from beyond the sea, and that Moshesh had begun to fight.

Sandilli was rather uncertain about the story of the English being all killed in the Crimea, and wished to know further concerning it before he went fairly to work.

They have lots of powder; they buy it from the low English who hang about the canteens. I think they have quite enough to begin, and then they will depend upon taking more from the English.

As far as I can judge myself, the whole of the Kaffirs from Moshesh to the sea will unite against the English, and *war is certain*, when I do not know, but I think not before the spring. Something might cause it to break out very soon, but in the ordinary course of things it will be some time first.

Fort Beaufort, May 3, 1856.

Copy.
(Signed) E. S. Smyth, Lieut.-Col., D. Q. M. G.

Graham's Town, May 4, 1856.

No. 16. No. 16.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 51.) Cape Town, June 6, 1856.
(Received Sept. 3, 1856.)

Sir, (Answered No. 122, November 15, 1856, page 72.)

Her Majesty's Government having intimated their intention, as a part of the plan for the location of the German Legion in this Colony, to send out a party of Engineer Officers and Artisans to assist in the erection of the necessary buildings, I beg earnestly to recommend that this proposal should be carried out, and in accordance with the enclosed recommendations, which have been drawn up by Colonel Bolton, the Commanding Royal Engineer, an officer of considerable ability, and of great experience in such subjects, it having been under his directions that the various military buildings, both for the regular forces and the enrolled pensioners were erected in New Zealand.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 17. No. 17.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 54.) Cape Town, June 7, 1856.
(Received Sept. 3, 1856.)

Sir, (Answered No. 100, Oct. 2, 1856, page 64.)

Adverting to my Despatch* No. 32, of the 24th April, in which I enclosed for your information the copy of a letter from the President of the Free State regarding the relations of that territory and Moshesh, I have now the honor to enclose the copy of another letter from President Boshof upon the same subject.

*Page 20. No. 1. May 11, 1856

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

2. From this you will learn that Moshesh had addressed a very friendly letter to him. I have had a very trustworthy person sent to Moshesh, and I am satisfied that the intentions of that chief are for the present quite pacific. The expedition against the chief Witse, has, I understand, terminated satisfactorily. All immediate danger of disturbance in the quarter of the Free State has thus, I hope, now passed away.

3. I also enclose the report* of a debate which took place in the Colonial Parliament, regarding the propriety, or the contrary, of that body requesting me to proceed without delay to the frontier for the purpose of mediating between Moshesh and the Free State.

4. Irrespective of what the Cape of Good Hope Parliament might wish me to do, as Governor of the Colony, it may sometimes be quite necessary for the good of Her Majesty's service that I should interfere for the purpose of preventing wars from breaking out on our borders, which will most probably have the effect of exciting the Kaffir tribes to make a war upon us, the cost of which Great Britain would at present have to defray.

No. 2. June 7, 1856.

5. Whilst, therefore, you may rely upon my never unnecessarily interfering, directly or indirectly, in disputes beyond our borders, I thought it right, as you will see from the enclosed copy of my letter, to say, in general terms, to the President of the Free State, that Her Majesty still felt so deep an interest in the welfare of the territory which had so recently formed a part of Her dominions, that I trusted he would not hesitate to address me upon any future occasion of threatened danger, that I might ascertain whether it would be consistent with my duty to be in any way useful to the Free State.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. 1 in No. 17.

Enclosure 1 in No. 17.

Government Office, Orange Free State, Bloemfontein,

SIR, May 11, 1856.

HAVING just returned from the Upper Sand River, where the commando against Witzie assembled, I think it right to inform your Excellency that on my way thither I received a letter from Moshesh addressed to the Landdrost of Winburg, dated 26th April, (and of which I annex a copy,) brought by the Chief Isaia and two of Moshesh's younger sons, one of whom, together with Isaia, has gone on with the commando, with the intention of endeavouring to persuade Witzie to come to terms, and of preventing Matella, a neighbouring chief under Moshesh, from interfering in the dispute. From all I have been enabled to ascertain, it would appear that Moshesh has given orders to all his subordinate chiefs to keep quiet and not to molest our frontiers. It now appears that, on the part of at least some of these chiefs, there was a disposition to assist Witzie, probably owing to a malicious report circulated through some of the Cape newspapers to the effect that our intention was first to attack one of the chiefs subject to the Basuto chief with 500 men, and afterwards to fall upon Moshesh himself with 3,000 men. Such reports, so gratuitously made and thoughtlessly circulated, are calculated, when brought under the notice of the native tribes, to give rise to most serious consequences. Our farmers have gone into "lagers," and keep patrols constantly going on our frontiers, but nothing tending to lead us to apprehend hostilities from the direction of the Basuto territories has, as yet, transpired.

Our commando is expected to be, by this time, in Witzie's hoek, and I am in hopes of learning the result in a few days.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. BOSHOF,

President Orange Free State.

His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c.

Sub-Encl. in Encl. No. 1.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure No. 1.

SIR, Thaba Bosigo, April 26, 1856.

I AM asked by the Chief Moshesh to inform you that, after receiving the letter of His Honour the President, his missionary being absent, the chief sent one of his sons to Bloemfontein to explain his views to the President on some subjects mentioned in his letter. The son of Moshesh left, but finding the river full, and unwell, went to some of his relatives, from where he sent to ask to write to the President the message of which he was the bearer; but the chief being now unaware if his Honour is still at Bloemfontein, or if he is going to Witse, ask of you, Sir, to have the kindness to make known to his Honour what was the message he wished to send him.

Moshesh regrets that his letter caused some displeasure to the President. It was not his intention to bring forth the question of the limits; but by what he was told about the land

* This report being very voluminous, is not printed.

commission, he understood that it was to fix the limits. Therefore, he felt anxious about what could happen, if such a thing was done before having spoken together on the subject, that the matter might be well understood; but now he feels reassured, as his Honour the President has let him know that the land commission were sent only to settle limits between some farms.

For what concerns Witzie's affairs, Moshesh is in the same opinion as he was before. He has done what was in his power to decide Witzie's people to restore to the farmers *all* what they have stolen from them. If Witzie will not do what is right, the chief shall not put the blame on the farmers for using hard measures to do themselves justice. Moshesh has warned his people to keep quiet and to have nothing to do with Witzie's people; but the effusion of blood is always a serious matter; therefore Moshesh would be glad, if before shedding blood, another attempt could be made to bring Witzie's people to make reparation for their wrongs. If the farmers have no objection, Moshesh says that he would send a man (I suppose the bearer of this) to accompany them to Witzie to be witness of what will happen, and also to be there in case of want; but be as it may, Moshesh begs of the President to let him know the result of the affair. His real desire is that order should be re-established and that peace be restored.

The chief begs to be kindly remembered to you, Sir.

For Moshesh,

J. Orpen, Esq., Landdrost, Winburg. (Signed) J. Martin, V.D.M.

A true copy.

(Signed) J. Cameron, Junr.

Enclosure 2 in No. 17.

Encl. 2 in No. 17.

Sir, Cape Town, June 7, 1856.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters of the 7th April and 11th May, upon the subject of your communications with the chief Moshesh, and the expedition which had been undertaken against the chief Witse.

2. It has given me great pleasure to learn from other sources, that these affairs have terminated in a manner which I think must be satisfactory to you.

3. The Queen of England still feels so deep an interest in the welfare of a territory which has so recently formed a part of Her Majesty's dominions, that I trust you will not hesitate to address me upon any future occasion of threatened danger, if you think it may be in my power to be useful to you, in order that I may ascertain if it may be consistent with my duty to meet your wishes.

I have, &c.

His Honour the President of the Orange Free State. (Signed) G. Grey.

No. 18.

No. 18.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 1, Military.)

Cape Town, July 10, 1856.

(Received Sept. 3, 1856.)

Sir, (Answered No. 110, Nov. 5, 1856, page 64.)

I have the honour to acquaint you that Lieutenant-General Sir James Jackson has informed me that there is but a very trifling quantity of ammunition for the Enfield rifle left on hand in this colony, and as the Anglo-German Legion are at least in part armed with this weapon, I trust that care will be taken that the legion brings out a complete supply of ammunition, not only for the Enfield rifle, but also for the Minié rifle, if any of the regiments are armed with that rifle, as the supply of ammunition already applied for from England has only reference to the force now serving in this command, and would not suffice for the Legion.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c. (Signed) G. GREY.

No. 19.

No. 19.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 2, Military.)

Cape Town, July 11, 1856.

(Received Sept. 3, 1856.)

Sir, (Answered No. 121, November 15, 1856, page 71.)

I have the honour to request that the attention of the Secretary for War should be called to the necessity of sending out an ample supply of flour and

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biscuit with the German Legion, as otherwise these articles will rise to a very high price in this Colony on the arrival of the Legion, if indeed a sufficient supply could then be obtained to meet the wants of the troops which appears very doubtful.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 20.

No. 20.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 3, Military.)

Cape Town, July 11, 1856.
(Received September 3, 1856.)
(Answered No. 110, November 5, 1856, page 64.)

Sir,

*Page 59.

Adverting to your Despatch* of the 25th of March last, upon the subject of the employment of the Anglo-German Legion in this colony, I have the honour to state that I think it of very great importance that this measure should be so conducted, that as great a portion as practicable of the expenditure incurred in the undertaking may be recovered for the public.

2. This seems desirable, not only upon grounds of public economy, but because it may hereafter be thought right in the case of Natal, and even perhaps as regards this Colony, to encourage a system of military colonization; and there can be no hope of obtaining the approval of Parliament for such a system, unless it can be shown that it can be carried out at no great cost to the mother country.

3. The sources from which I think a considerable part of the cost of the proposed experiment can be repaid, are,—

(1.) The 40,000*l.* voted for this purpose by the Colonial Parliament.

(2.) That portion of Schedule D. which is reserved for the same purpose, and which in the next five years will yield another sum of at least 40,000*l.*, making a total amount of 80,000*l.*

(3.) The amount realized by the sale of lands, which I propose should be reserved for this object in each military settlement. I hope that the sum ultimately yielded by these lands will reach at least 100,000*l.*

4. I think, therefore, that I shall be justified in assuming that Her Majesty's Government will, eventually, recover from colonial sources from 180,000*l.* to 200,000*l.* of the amount expended on locating the Anglo-German Legion in this country; this is, of course, quite exclusive of the saving which Great Britain will ultimately effect by the reduction of the military force serving here, and by avoiding the enormous cost of Kaffir wars.

5. In order that as great an amount as practicable may be derived from the sale of the lands reserved, either in or in the immediate vicinity of the military settlements, I propose that from the moment of the Legion arriving in this colony, all these reserved lands should at once be placed under the control of an officer selected for the purpose by the Secretary for War.

6. This officer should be charged with the duty of disposing of these lands, under such regulations as might be approved of by the Governor of the colony; he should, also, receive the amounts paid as purchase-money, and deposit them in the military chest, and the Governor would then, upon receiving a copy of the receipts, together with a description of the land disposed of, execute a Crown grant for it in favour of the purchaser.

7. I would also propose that the officer who may be charged with the conduct of the financial affairs connected with the Legion, should be the authority with whom the officers of the Legion, and all other persons, should correspond upon all questions connected with the advances which are to be made for building the houses of officers or men, or for the purchase of stock or implements, and generally upon all questions which might arise regarding expenditure of any kind whatever connected with the Anglo-German Legion, or regarding lands assigned to members of the Legion, or lands reserved to be sold in part payment of the cost incurred in settling the Legion, or in fulfilment of the agreement

which may be entered into with the officers regarding the remission money in the purchase of land to which they are to become entitled.

8. Without Her Majesty's Government afford me the assistance of an officer specially charged with the fulfilment of these duties, it will be quite impossible for me to get through the amount of work which will be thrown upon me in conducting the location of the Anglo-German Legion in this country; and much unnecessary expenditure will undoubtedly be incurred.

9. Whilst, if an able and intelligent officer is appointed to discharge the duties I propose, when once the necessary regulations have been laid down the greater part of the business which can arise will be disposed of in his office, without the necessity of any reference to me; and my duty will consist in a merely general superintendence of the affairs which he transacts; whilst, if any disputed points arise, or any new questions have to be decided, he can refer these, together with his report upon them, for my decision, and thus at once obtain, not only the opinion of the Governor regarding them, but the weight of his authority in deciding the questions at issue.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 21.

No. 21.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

(No. 4, Military.) Cape Town, July 12, 1856.

(Received Sept. 3, 1856.)

Sir, (Answered No. 110, Nov. 5, 1856, page 64.)

In reply to your Despatch* of the 25th of March last, informing me that Her Majesty's Government were anxious to have my opinion upon the subject of the location of the Anglo-German Legion in this colony, I have the honour to enclose a memorandum consisting of the heads named in the margin, in which I have discussed in considerable detail every point connected with this subject, and which will, I think, afford all the information required.

*Page 59.

1. Proposed future disposition of military force in South Africa.
2. General plan for the location of the Anglo-German Legion (with map.)
3. House and cottages.
4. Rations.
5. Conditions on which it is proposed to locate the Anglo-German Legion in South Africa.

2. That paper of the enclosed memorandum which is headed "Conditions "on which it is proposed to locate the British German Legion in South "Africa," has been drawn up jointly by myself and Major Grant, the officer whom Lord Panmure sent out to communicate personally with me. We are both of opinion that these conditions are well suited to the circumstances of this country. If Her Majesty's Government think that any modifications should be made in them, Major Grant will at once be able to state whether or not any objections exist to the alterations proposed, as he is fully acquainted with my views, and has now acquired considerable knowledge of the country. Her Majesty's Government may, therefore, rely upon his opinion.

3. I wish, however, to call attention to one of the enclosed conditions, which proposes that "in the event of Her Majesty's Government being pleased to "grant a free passage to the colony to any eligible officers, who shall have "ceased to be borne on the strength of the British German Legion for pay, by "reason of reduction, any such officer shall be entitled to the same privileges "of remisssion-money in the purchase of land as any officer of the force in his "corresponding rank."

Appendix.
Report by Colonel Bisset.
Letter from Commodore Trotter, July 10.
(Note.—These Enclosures are omitted, as the whole substance of them will be found in the Appendix to Major Grant's Report, page 80.)

4. By this condition eligible officers struck off the strength of the Legion, who have no pay or means of subsistence, will be entitled to a remission in the purchase of land in this colony. But, as it would be a very great misfortune to have a number of poor and idle young men thrown into the country, I sincerely trust that this condition, if adopted, will in no case be made to include any officer who is not really eligible, in the strict sense of the word, and who does not possess some capital or means of subsistence. The success of the whole plan may be greatly endangered by an imprudent relaxation of the spirit of the condition.

5. †I beg to request that the immediate attention of the Lords of the Admiralty may be drawn to the letter from the Commodore on this station, which is attached to the enclosed memorandum, as the whole efficiency of the means Her Majesty's Government are now taking for the permanent maintenance of

†Answered by Despatch No. 133, Dec. 4, 1856, page 73.

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peace in this country will depend upon two thoroughly effective steam-vessels being maintained on this station.

6. I should also point out that it is essential that a large portion of the Anglo-German Legion should reach this country by the end of November at the latest, the end of December being that period of the year which the Kaffirs select for commencing their wars; and it is very probable that, their minds being excited by the rumours they have heard of the expected arrival of large reinforcements, they may be induced, if some detachments do not appear before that time, to break out into war next December, conceiving that, if they lose the present year, their last hope of any successful attack on the Colony will be extinct.

7. The officers and men of the Anglo-German Legion should distinctly understand that detachments of the Legion may be located in any parts of the British possessions in South Africa which may be selected by the Governor for that purpose, and that the sites at present named are only proposed sites, some of which it may hereafter be found inexpedient to occupy with the Legion, whilst new positions may be also selected for detachments of this force.

8. In conclusion, I would request you to be good enough to bring under Lord Panmure's notice my sense of the zeal and ability with which Major Grant has discharged the duty confided to him, and the obligations I am under to him for the cheerful and cordial assistance which he has afforded me in working out the details of the plan now submitted to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 22.

No. 22.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

Cape Town, July 14, 1856.

(Military, No. 5.)

(Received Sept. 3, 1856.)

Sir,

(Answered No. 110, November 5, 1856, page 64.)

I am very anxious to press upon Her Majesty's Government, that it would be extremely advantageous to this Colony if married men from the militia, or from the troops of the line, were permitted to volunteer for the British German Legion, and to accompany that body to South Africa.

2. A considerable part of the expense of the proposed location of the German Legion here will be defrayed from colonial sources, and the addition of a body of Englishmen to the force would render it more useful in this country, more agreeable to the colonists where they are to be located; and I think in affording such great advantages to foreigners, it would be desirable to permit our own countrymen to participate in them, at least to some extent.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 23.

No. 23.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.

Cape Town, July 14, 1856.

(No. 60.)

(Received Sept. 3, 1856.)

Sir,

(Answered No. 99, October 1, 1856, page 64.)

No. 32, April 24, page 20.
No. 33, „ 30, page 31.
No. 50, June 6, page 38.

In the Despatches of numbers and dates specified in the margin, I had the honour to bring under your notice the rumours in circulation, of a general combination amongst the Kaffir race, to unite in an attack upon this colony. I at the same time reported my own disbelief in these rumours. Having now just returned from the frontier, it is in my power, from personal observation of the state of affairs there, to inform you that I feel quite satisfied that none of the chiefs of the Kaffir or Basuto races are united in any designs against the colony, nor do I see any immediate danger of the peace of this country being broken.

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2. In British Kaffraria, everything was quiet and prosperous. The natives, who, poor people, had suffered severely from the lung sickness amongst their cattle, were employed in large numbers, in opening up the country by roads and upon other public works, and expressed themselves most grateful for the employment thus afforded to them. The system of magistrates being appointed to reside with the chiefs was working well, and those chiefs who had not yet received magistrates, were earnestly pressing to have this boon, as they now regard it, accorded to them. The sick among the Kaffirs were availing themselves, in large numbers, of the medical assistance which Her Majesty's Government had directed to be afforded them. The industrial schools were generally progressing satisfactorily. The European population were prosperous and contented, and were cordially co-operating in the plans of the Government. It will be seen, from the enclosed address from the European inhabitants of King William's Town, that the British residents in Kaffraria, with all their means of forming a judgment upon the subject on the spot, acknowledge that the measures in progress for the permanent settlement of the difficulties under which that country has so long laboured, are daily proving more successful, and that to these, under Providence, they hold themselves indebted for peace, for the sources of wealth which are opening up to their town, and for the fact of their now being able to enjoy, in security, the fruits of their industry.

Enclosure No. 1.

3. The enclosed copies of three letters from Moshesh have just reached me, and will show the friendly feelings which he bears towards the British Government. Affairs between the Government of the Orange Free State and the native tribes in their vicinity are, as will be seen from the letters of Moshesh, still in an unsettled state, but I see nothing in them which need cause serious apprehensions, and which time and prudence may not overcome. In fact, these difficulties must, in some degree, be attributed to ourselves, as they may all be more or less traced to the fact of our having left the Orange Free State, without having in any way defined or settled the boundaries between that state and the Basutos on the one side, and between it and the Griquas on the other.

Enclosures Nos. 2, 3, and 4.

4. The Government of the Orange Free State, necessarily weak, from its nature, its newness, and its poverty, thus finds itself pressed by the claims of its subjects, who hold grants for lands from the British Government, whilst Basutos or Griquas are still in possession of these lands, and decline to yield that which they claim as their own. I, however, still hope that with care these difficulties may be by degrees removed.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure 1 in No. 23.

Encl. 1 in No. 23.

May it please your Excellency, King William's Town, June 11, 1856.

The heartfelt welcome with which we received your Excellency on your first visit to this town will not, we trust, preclude us from the honour of again presenting our equally fervent congratulations on the restoration of that peace which had blessed our fatherland for so many happy years; when we consider the great object your Excellency had in view in undertaking the government of this country, and the then serious difficulties which presented themselves to every thinking mind, we cannot but thank that Providence which has so kindly provided the ready means of averting the future scourges of war which has so often deluged this otherwise beautiful country with blood, and checked the progress of civilization, which every lover of his species has so near to his heart.

To our beloved Sovereign, to your Excellency, Her Majesty's representative, to our dear fellow-countrymen, to our allies, and to the whole family of man, we offer our heartfelt congratulations. But if we may be allowed for a moment to contract our view of the blessings thus conferred on the world, we would particularly congratulate Kaffraria on the success of the measures which your Excellency has devised, the wisdom of which every day more fully develops.

To your Excellency, under Providence, we own ourselves indebted for peace, for opening the source of wealth to our town, for security to the fruits of our industry, for the cheering and not distant prospect of thousands of the heathen by whom we are surrounded being brought to that light where salvation is to be found.

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And, in conclusion, we sincerely pray your Excellency may be spared to complete your truly Christian and benevolent designs, and that they may be crowned with abundant success. We remain, &c.

(Signed) James Watkins, R.C.C., Chairman.
Geo. Chapman.
James H. Parker.
And 78 others.

His Excellency Sir G. Grey, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2 in No. 23.

Encl. 2 in No. 23.

Monseigneur, Thaba Bosigo, June 4, 1856.

Moshesh me prie de vous accuser réception de votre honorée du 28 Avril dernier. Il a été touché des marques de bienveillance que son Excellence lui a temoignée, en lui envoyant du vaccin, et il m'a chargé lui-même de vous en exprimer toute sa reconnaissance.

Je suis aussi chargé de vous traduire le discours qu'il m'a tenu hier, en présence de plusieurs de ses conseillers.

" Monseigneur (Morena), je viens d'apprendre des nouvelles qui m'ont beaucoup affligé. " On m'accuse d'avoir fait une alliance avec tous les noirs habitant sur les limites du Free- " State et de la colonie, dans le but de nous prêter une assistance mutuelle dans une " guerre générale que moi, Moshesh, je chercherais à faire éclater contre les blancs, " habitant les pays sur-mentionnés. On dit même, que j'ai déjà envoyé des ambassadeurs " à ce sujet dans différents quartiers du Sud de l'Afrique.

" Monseigneur, je suis heureux de pouvoir vous dire que tous ces discours sont " mensongers, et ceux qui les ont prononcés, n'ont eu d'autre but que de jeter de la " défaveur sur mon nom, et d'exciter les blancs contre moi. Je n'aime pas la guerre, je " l'ai prouvé maintes fois, et si malheureusement elle éclate, elle sera provoquée par des " hommes qui veulent me ravir un pays que plusieurs traités faits avec le Gouvernement " Anglais témoignent m'appartenir. Aujourd'hui même ces personnes semblent chercher " un prétexte pour commencer une guerre que je cherche à éviter de tout mon pouvoir. " Du reste, je crois avoir donné assez de preuves de ma fidélité au Gouvernement de la " Reine pour que ses sujets n'aient rien à craindre de ma part.

" Quoique je ne sois pas un homme versé dans la sagesse des blancs, je dis, cependant, " que la paix est la mère de la plupart des bienfaits que nous jouissons en bas, tandis " que la guerre entraine avec elle de grands malheurs, et nous prive de mes enfants. J'ai " assez vecu pour apprécier tous les bienfaits de la paix.

" Puisque les bruits dont je viens de parler ont eu pour résultat de faire naitre de " l'inquiétude dans la colonie, je prie son Excellence de vouloir bien informer ses enfants " (ses sujets) que Moshesh ne leur veut que du bien, et que, quand il serait en son pouvoir " de leur faire du mal, il ne le ferait pas."

Je me joins à Moshesh, Monseigneur, pour vous souhaiter paix et prospérité et vous donner l'assurance de mon devoûment.

A son Excellence le Gouverneur
du Cap de Bonne Espérance.

Theop. Sousse, V.D.M.

Encl. 3 in No. 23.

Enclosure 3 in No. 23.

Thaba Bosigo, June 17, 1856.

To his Excellency Sir G. Grey, K.C.B., Governor of the Colony.

Your Excellency (Morena),

I suppose that you will by this time have received some official reports about the affairs at Uetsi's.

Mr. Bossoff informed me at the first start, upon which I sent Esaia and two of my sons, that they might see how things would go on, and afford assistance, if required either by the whites or Uetsi; also to make their utmost to bring things to a peaceful conclusion, lest this quarrel should cause a general disturbance. Mr. Bossoff consented. My messengers have been very properly taken care of. They went with the commando. When in the vicinity of Uetsi's, they hastened to send word to him, saying :—" You must try to obtain " a conference with the contending party, whether you come in person, or send a proper " man, that those affairs may be settled in a peaceful manner."

My men have sent to me the following report:—" The next day Uetsi deputed a chief " called Kualane; he came, he said, to Mr. Orpen and field commandant Botha :—' My " ' master has said: *Bengali Ca Ka* (my Lords), I am afraid, seeing that you come with " ' power, for I am too humble a man that you should come to me with arms and with " ' power. What is the painful affair which brings you to me?' He was still speaking, " when Mr. Orpen answered him: ' Are you a member of Uetsi's family?' He said " no. ' Are you a member of his Council?' He said no. Then Mr. Orpen said : ' Does

" 'Uetsi mock us, to send such a man as you to us? Go now to Uetsi; tell him that we
" 'left Bloemfontein with orders to come and compel Uetsi by force; and on account of
" 'that word of his, we consent to go to him: and tell him to deliver 1,700 head of cattle
" 'and 300 horses, that all may be thus settled; let him know that we go to-morrow; let
" 'him not sleep this night, but gather that cattle, and tell him that death lays at his
" 'door."

"The night spent, at sunrise they took their horses and prepared to start, and Moshesh's
" men said: 'It is proper for us also to go.' The head of the party said: 'No, stay here;
" 'should Uetsi behave properly, I will call you.' So we stayed. They went on a Satur-
" day, the next day they fought; and when they returned, they said: 'One thousand and
" 'hundred head of cattle, with tenths of horses and sheep, have been taken, but cattle
" 'have been taken, but cattle have been driven away towards Moshesh's. Shall not
" 'Molapo stop them, that we may find them near?' The messengers answered: 'Don't
" 'mind, although they are gone, we shall go after them, and thus ye yourselves will find
" 'out the spoors.' And the messengers of Moshesh said: 'Now we must go back to tell
" 'Moshesh and Molapo to settle this affair.' And the messengers of Moshesh sent word
" of it to Molapo; and the spoor of Uetsi's cattle; since the orders of Moshesh had been
" positive, after what he had been told by Mr. Boshof, who had said, 'Uetsi's cattle are
" 'not to run towards Moshesh's'; those spoors being heard of by Molapo, he got hot at
" once, and ordered immediately Moaluti, his cousin, with a number of men, saying: 'Go
" 'quickly, go seek that cattle we hear of. When you find them, stop them, turn them
" 'back towards the land they came from.' And he wrote to Mr. Orpen, saying: 'I
" 'have heard of your uneasiness, Sir, not so; I have orders from my father, firm ones,
" 'which I am to go by: I have sent men to turn out those flocks, as I settled lately the
" 'affair of Jan Veick and of the lad who had runned away with a black horse belonging
" 'to the Boer. Inform me by Kari (Malapo's messenger) that I may, when he returns,
" 'learn how you have settled things.'"

After having heard of all this affair, and that the bulk of the commando had returned, I hastened to send one of my sons with Esaiu to Mr. Boshof. They took a letter from me, but it has been lost, in which I was saying, "Now, sir, I would like to learn how you " have settled things. Again, you told me before that no man was to be in a hurry to travel " till the commando had returned. Cannot the way be opened now? Please to return me " an answer." And his Honour (Morena) said to this:—"Moshesh speaks right, but I " havn't much to answer. As regards Winburg's district, I will first learn of the Land-" drost, but as to Uetsi's directions, my ears are still shut, because Uetsi is still stealing from " us to this day. I have given orders to destroy him should he not run away somewhere, or " to Moshesh, who would, I hope, receive him, that we may have him out of your country. " Go, Esaiu, and say so to Moshesh. I give you no letter, as you have brought none, and " that it is not improper that we should communicate together with your chief by words " of mouth."

Your Excellency, such are my news to you. I have thought it well to lay them before you. I put down an extract of a letter which Mr. Boshof has written to me (2d May), saying, "I have seen your son and Esaiu. I am well pleased to find that you are so well " disposed towards us, and that we may have the prospect that this affair of Uetsi will " not bring about a rupture between us, as I do hope your people on the frontier " will attend to your orders in not meddling in any way in the matter, so as to assist, pro-" tect, or shelter our enemies. I send this letter to assure you that I greatly value the " assistance you have offered to us."

Mr. Orpen also has written to my son, Malapo (17th May), saying, "I have great " pleasure in receiving your letter of the 15th, by Kali, and am very thankful for it; and " seeing your zeal to preserve peace, I was myself afraid that it might fall out badly when " I saw that Uetsi's cattle had fled into Moshesh's country, and that Matela had given " harbour to Kali; for our instructions from Mr. Boshof were, that if Uetsi made no " fitting offer of compensation, we were to eat him up, and follow his cattle wherever they " went. We intend to take our time about it, take all his cattle, and clear the country of " the Bakolokues. They must be made an example of. Uetsi has delayed us a good deal " by pretending to ask for peace, and that he would pay a fine, and has thus got much of " his cattle out of the way."

I send also to you copy of a letter I wrote yesterday to Mr. Boshof, that you may know how things stand amongst us at this day.

I salute you very much,

(Signed) MOSHESH.

A true translation.

(Signed) THEOP. SOUSSE, V.D.M.

Enclosure 4. in No. 23.

COPY of a LETTER sent by MOSHESH to his Honour the PRESIDENT of the ORANGE FREE STATE.

GREAT CHIEF, Thaba Bosigo, June 16, 1856.

A FORTNIGHT ago I sent to you my son Tlari and Esaiah Seele; they had a letter from me, which they have lost on the road; and I write again to you.

I was asking you, Sir, whether the roads are still stopped, praying you to open them

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

again; for there are by me Baraputsas, Banaka-lebalele, and people belonging to other small tribes, who want to go and look for employment among your own people or among the English; and there are also by me Baperis, who are on their return up to their own land, now that they have already returned from the colony, or from amongst you, but the ways are stopped. For my own people also, this is the time when they go more particularly among the whites to work or handle, but they are prevented. Grant us a free way, great Chief; since work and commerce leave war far behind them, it is those things that make tribes—wars are only ravening wolves. I think that Uetsi has been sufficiently chastised by you. Would it not be well to stop there, that the tribe of Uetsi may live and not become a dead thing; and that both you and me should suffer no injury because people, for want of subsistence, become mad, and make no difference between man and man, but live on depredations only.

Such was the word of mine which has been lost; and to day I repeat it, praying you to acquiesce to my desire.

Besides, great Chief, Uetsi has just sent a messenger to me, requesting that I should beg for peace from you. I have consented to that; it is you who said when you begun that war against Uetsi, that he was constantly stealing from you; but I was not conscious that he had stolen so very much.

I agreed that there had been stealing on the part of the Bakolokues, but it was not so very many. And again, thieves used to be in most cases the very Bakolokues that served on your farms, and who would run away with a stolen head of cattle or a horse. Things stood so when I consider them. Now you went and told me, keep aside; I have kept aside, and keep aside still. But I feel very much for Uetsi. What do you want him to do? He sent, says he, three deputies; it was Kualane, a chief he had sent to the camp before, well known by Commandant Botha. That man went with two attendants, Makhena and Breng; they had been entrusted with a small troop of cattle, in token of Uetsi's submission. But they were shot, the three, and the cattle remained with your people.

Again, Uetsi sent Khantsi and Checha to go and ask for peace, with another small troop of cattle; and the chief of the camp answered these:—"We do not accept of such, we want those we will take ourselves;" it is how they ran away in the night, bringing no word of peace.

A third time Kuxi and Ukire were sent; they went with cattle too; but they were chased, and hastened to run away for their lives, leaving the peace-cattle in your people's hand. The proceeding is horrible; it is quite contrary to the manners of our tribes to butcher people that way, and to refuse so obstinately to receive their submission. Those men you treat thus, can you kill them all? and where do you want them to go to? To me, as you have advised by Esaiah Seele? There are already too many people; and also you recommend me, when he had cattle, to shoot him the way towards me, and in the Malontes people cannot live on account of the cold. West and north, they find the land occupied by you; towards Natal it is impossible for the Bakolokues to go, since they came out from thence when Dingan was destroyed by the Boers, and that Uetsi took up his refuge in the high lands by fear of them. He settled therein at a time when there was not a single white man, for Uetsi is not a new comer; it is why I say have pity on him now, that he may eat corn; and if you continue to hunt that people in their fields, that they may die out of starvation, not so with man, he turns mad first, and then dies.

I wonder, great Chief, the things going on this year; I wonder, and say, let him have bread, lest he turns a mad thief.

I salute you very much.

(Signed) MOSHESH.

True translation.

(Signed) THEOP. SOUSSE, V.D.M.

No. 24.

No. 24.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 61.)

Cape Town, July 14, 1856.

(Received September 3, 1856.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose a letter, which has been addressed by Mtani Mahlati, a Kaffir, to the Queen, expressing his gratitude to Her Majesty for having caused medical assistance to be provided for the Kaffir tribes, one of the results of which has been that the writer of this letter has been by an operation restored to sight after having been blind for 16 years.

2. Dr. Fitzgerald, who was sent out from England to take charge of the medical department in Kaffraria, has been devoting himself in the most praiseworthy manner to his duties. The natives crowd in hundreds for medical relief, coming for that purpose from distant parts of Kaffirland, beyond the limits of our territory; and, fortunately, a number of cases have been so successfully

treated, that their confidence in us has been increased in a most remarkable manner. Indeed, I doubt if any experiment could be attended with greater success than that which has followed our attempts to induce the Kaffirs to have recourse to us for medical assistance.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 24.

Enclosure in No. 24.

King William's Town, British Kaffraria,
June 23, 1856.

I AM very thankful to you, dearest Queen Victoria, because you have sent for me a good doctor, a clever man. I was 16 years blind, Mother and Queen, but now I see perfectly. I see everything. I can see the stars, and the moon, and the sun. I used to be led before, but now, Mother, O Queen, I am able to walk myself. Let God bless you as long as you live on earth. Let God bless Mother. Thou must not be tired to bear our infirmities, O Queen Victoria.

MAHLATI ZIKALI.

Translation.
LOT HRAYI (Kaffir),
Interpreter to Hospital, King William's Town.

No. 25.

No. 25.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 80.) Cape Town, August 18, 1856.
(Received November 3, 1856.)
SIR, (Answered No. 119, November 14, 1856, page 71.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, a very gratifying Medical Report, for the quarter ended the 30th ultimo, from which you will find that 2,278 coloured patients applied for and received medical relief in British Kaffraria during that quarter. Of this number

1,579	- - -	were Kaffirs.
495	- - -	,, Fingoes.
204	- - -	,, Hottentots.
2,278		

It will thus be seen that the system of affording medical relief to the Kaffirs has been more successful than could possibly have been hoped for.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 25.

Enclosure in No. 25.

SIR, King William's Town, August 3, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report to you, for the information of his Excellency the High Commissioner, that from the 1st of May to 31st of July, a period of three months, 2,278 Natives have applied for and received medical aid at my hands in King William's Town.

Of this number, 1,579 were Kaffirs, 495 Fingoes, and 204 Hottentots.

Many have come from beyond the Kie, and other distant places, for the purpose of seeking medical aid.

Last week three waggon loads of sick people were brought into King William's Town, from near Fort Cox and the Middle Drift, for medical aid.

The Chief Kama, from the Middle Drift, sent his wife and family to me, and they are now in one of the Pensioners' Cottages; this is the first time his wife has visited King William's Town.

Eight blind people have undergone operations. Four have left, having recovered their sight. The others are recovering.

Of the four who have recovered their sight, one had been blind 16 years, and was accustomed to be led about; he has now recovered his sight, and goes out to hunt.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Natives have been to see him from many places, to ascertain if it were true.

Another case was that of a mother of two children, blind three years, and deprived of the sight of her children for that period, a relation of the chief "Kama," from the Middle Drift. She was led to me blind; she left able to walk alone. Her children came to see her, and the first time I had the pleasure of seeing them together, they were sitting beside her, and she was stirring two pannikins of tea, which she handed to each of them.

The third case was the wife of a Fingoe, unable to assist her husband, who was obliged to do all the household work; now he is able to go to work, and she able to resume her own place.

The fourth is a woman living in King William's Town, able to see well, and work.

The pleasure I feel in communicating these few facts to you for the information of his Excellency is only equalled by the pleasure I feel in being able to afford the slightest assistance to a Governor under whom I have served for many years, and who has a strong claim not only on my services, but also on my gratitude.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. P. FITZGERALD,
Superintendent of Hospitals, British Kaffraria.

The Chief Commissioner, &c.
Fort Murray.

SIR, King William's Town, August 3, 1856.

IN forwarding to you the accompanying report, I beg to remark, that I do not expect the number of applicants to continue at the same rate, for people cannot always be sick; but I think we may expect from 400 to 600 a month, perhaps; sometimes more, sometimes less. There are now through Kaffirland, we may say, upwards of 200 messengers who have received medical aid; they will encourage others to have recourse to us for assistance when in need. This establishment, professing nothing, seeking nothing, requiring nothing, except the cure of the sick, and the alleviation of human suffering, has been amply rewarded in the success of the last three months.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. P. FITZGERALD, M.D.

No. 26.

No. 26.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 81.) Cape Town, August 18, 1856.

SIR, (Received November 3, 1856.)

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that considerable alarm has, for the last few days, prevailed upon the frontier of this colony, from reports having been put into circulation that a great meeting had been held by the Kaffir chiefs, upon the 5th instant, on the borders of a river on this side of the Kei, at which were present the chiefs Kreli, Sandilli, Macomo, Siwani, Dilima, and others, who had all unanimously resolved on war; and that, on the 4th of August, a great meeting had been held by Kama's tribe, at which language had been used which threw much suspicion on the great chiefs of that tribe.

2. Regarding the first of these alleged meetings, nothing of the kind took place; and you will find, from the enclosed copy of a notice which I have had published, that three out of the five principal chiefs who were said to have been present at the meeting were, at the time it is stated to have been held, present with the Government authorities, in their respective districts, discussing the means that should be taken to check the prevailing excitement.

Enclosure. Government Gazette, Aug. 19. Notice, No. 290.

3. From the same Gazette you will learn that, although it is quite true that a meeting of Kama's tribe was held on the 4th of August, nothing could have been better than the demeanour of the chiefs on that occasion. I would particularly request your attention to the minutes of that meeting as illustrative of the Kaffir capacity of intellect, their present state, some struggling on into the light of Christianity, others still sunk in the depths of superstition, and of the present general feeling of the chiefs in relation to the Government.

Enclosure. Government Gazette, Aug. 19. Notice, No. 283.

4. I hope the publication of the enclosed Gazette will have had the effect of allaying the excitement which prevailed; but the only sure mode of permanently checking the sudden spread of such alarming reports, and the panics which result from them, is to increase the European population so much, that

they may feel equal to cope with their Kaffir neighbours, and this will be done by the arrival of the German Legion.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure in No. 26.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.—No. 290, 1856.

Colonial Office, Cape of Good Hope,
18th August 1856.

WITH reference to the Government Notice No. 283, published in a *Gazette Extraordinary* on Saturday last, his Excellency the Governor and High Commissioner has directed it to be notified, for general information, that from accounts subsequently received from the frontier, it appears certain that no general meeting of Kaffir chiefs, if any, took place on the 5th instant at the place indicated by the report referred to in the above notice.

By Command of his Excellency the Governor and High Commissioner,

(Signed) RAWSON W. RAWSON.
Colonial Secretary.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.—No. 283, 1856.

Colonial Office, Cape of Good Hope,
August 16, 1856.

HIS Excellency the Governor and High Commissioner, finding that considerable alarm has been created by reports which are in circulation that a great meeting was held by the Kaffir chiefs upon the 5th instant on the borders of a river on this side of the Kei, at which were present the Chiefs Kreli, Sandilli, Macomo, Siwani, Dilima, and others, who had all unanimously resolved on war, has directed the publication of the accompanying letters, which show that on the day named Sandilli and Dilima were with government authorities in their own districts, discussing the state of the country. His Excellency has further ascertained, that on the same day, the chief Siwani was also present with government authorities in his district.

Very alarming reports having also been put into circulation regarding a great meeting of Kama's tribe, which took place on the 4th of August, and doubts having been expressed regarding the conduct of Kama, and his own son Samuel, the great chiefs of that tribe, his Excellency has also directed the publication of the minutes of the meeting which was on that occasion held; and as, in the present time of excitement, it is of great consequence that nothing should be done to create a feeling of distrust and suspicion in the minds of the Kaffir chiefs, his Excellency earnestly impresses upon all persons the propriety of refraining from circulating alarming reports, the truth of which they have not ascertained.

By command of his Excellency the Governor and High Commissioner.

(Signed) RAWSON W. RAWSON,
Colonial Secretary.

(No 64.—COPY.)

Colonel MACLEAN, Chief Commissioner.

SIR, Dohne, Aug. 5, 1856, 8 P.M.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that I have just returned from Sandilli's, whither I went yesterday according to previous arrangement.

No business was transacted yesterday, but I spent the time in conversation with Sandilli and his counsellors, principally upon passing events.

This morning, all the principal counsellors having arrived, Sandilli opened the proceedings by stating to me that much uneasiness and excitement existed in consequence of the prophets in the Hlambi district,* as well as with regard to Umhlakaza, for whose apprehension it was reported that the Governor was about to move a large force into Kreli's country. Sandilli further stated, that many cattle and goods, and much corn, were daily passing for sale, and that the Galekas were fast reducing themselves to a state of starvation.

In answer, I thanked Sandilli for the news, informing him that he told me of what was well known to all; but before going into this matter, I would revert to another, well known to us all. Sandilli and all present remembered Umlanjeni's predictions. He told the Kaffirs they would not die in conflict with the English. I told them that they would: and Umlanjeni gave them charms to preserve their lives, which proved utterly inefficient. Umlanjeni told them he would bring down fire to destroy the English. I told them he had no more power than they over the elements. Umlanjeni told them they would drive the white man into the sea. I told them the white man would drive them out of their country if the Gaikas made war; and that they would suffer as they had never suffered before. I called them all to witness to the truth of what I had said. Did Umlanjeni perform an iota of what he had promised, and which of my words proved false?

* I have not heard of the prophets of the Hlambi district.—J. M.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Within the last year other doctors had arisen. They told the people not to cultivate their fields, and to kill their cattle; and, with Umlanjeni's lies fresh before their eyes, hundreds obeyed, and were now suffering the fruits of their folly. The time for the landing of the Russians to sweep the English from the face of the earth had been fixed; the time is past; the Russians have not come; the people have been ruined, and the doctors are forgotten.

But this is not all: another doctor arises, and, as if the Kaffirs were bent on their own destruction, he again is eagerly listened to; he tells the Kaffirs to destroy their cattle, goats, and corn. This the Galekas and many Hlambis are doing as fast as they can: when the work of destruction is over, the dead of man and beast are to arise. Now, as I foretold you with Umlanjeni what would take place, I will again tell you what will take place.

God created the heaven and the earth and all things in six days, and on the seventh he rested, his work being completed; and from God's word we learn that there will be a resurrection of all men, who will come before him to give an account of the deeds done in this body, when some will go to everlasting happiness, and others to everlasting punishment; and that then the world will be destroyed by fire; but the time is not yet. Umhlakaza professes to have his revelations from God. God is a God of Truth, and what he has once revealed to man stands as unchangeable as himself. There will be no resurrection of men or beasts, as predicted by Umhlakaza, for his resurrection is opposed to the Word of God. If the Galekas persist in their present evil course, they will perish by famine and its consequent diseases: this will do more to destroy the people than any war which has ever yet taken place.

I am glad to find among the Gaikas there were yet no evident signs of their having adopted Umhlakaza's orders; but still they would suffer indirectly with the Galekas, who would come among them for food and steal their cattle. From motives of humanity, as well as of self-interest, if they were indeed sincere in their professions, they should use their utmost endeavours to dissuade Kreli from his mad course. Sandilli himself should go to Kreli with this object.

I further assured them that they need be under no apprehension that the Governor would meddle with Umhlakaza. It grieved the Governor, as it did all their friends, to see the Kaffirs thus destroying themselves, but he would not interfere with them so long as they destroyed their own property, and did no injury to British subjects; and even should Kreli commit an aggression on the Government, if the Gaikas remained at peace, they need fear no harm, and like the Hlambis in the last war, they might see the troops, but would not be molested by them.

I trusted, however, Kreli would not be so infatuated as to bring on himself the horrors of war, together with the horrors of famine.

Sandilli thanked for my "word." He said he did not believe in Umhlakaza. God did nothing in secret; all his works were open and manifest, and he would not so long be making secret communications to Umhlakaza, without some evident manifestation of power to convince the unbelieving. He (Sandilli) had already prohibited the slaughtering of cattle in his tribe, and even should his people disregard his word, he would retain his cattle; God had given corn and cattle for the support of man, and he considered that those who destroyed his gifts were more exposed to his wrath than those who preserved them, and that though darkness should cover the land, as predicted by Umhlakaza, and though Sandilli's cattle should be swept off the face of the earth, he knew God was merciful, and would again feed him as heretofore, because if he committed a sin in disobeying Umhlakaza it was a sin of ignorance, and therefore could not be severely punished. He was glad to hear that the rumour of troops marching to take Umhlakaza was untrue, as the Galekas would assuredly resist; and when war once broke out, it was difficult to say where it would end. He highly approved of my suggestion, that he should go to Kreli, and was willing to go; but he wished that I should go with him.

I told Sandilli that I was quite willing to go if I could do any good; but as Kreli might look on me as an enemy, whatever I might say would have no weight.

Some of the counsellors spoke, making satisfactory remarks on what had been said, and expressing satisfaction that Sandilli should go to Kreli, but others opposed them; and after a long private discussion, they came to the conclusion that it is not according to Kaffir custom that a minor chief should interfere with the affairs of a superior chief, unless a reference had been made to him; therefore, as Kreli had made no reference or report to Sandilli regarding Umhlakaza, it was against etiquette and custom, that Sandilli should speak to Kreli on this matter; but when Kreli had sent to report it, then Sandilli could take the course I propose.

I argued that Sandilli need make no allusion whatever either to Umhlakaza or his predictions; he might simply make a reference to the cattle, goats, and corn, that he saw daily passing for sale, and from this he might endeavour to convince Kreli of his folly; but when he saw and acknowledged that his countrymen and relations were rushing headlong into ruin, neither etiquette nor custom should deter him from endeavouring to rescue them; but Sandilli abode by the decision of the counsellors.

Within the last few days, a great change has taken place among the Gaikas; they have not yet begun to sell their cattle, neither have they killed extensively, but many of them are wavering and on the turning point. Sandilli himself is sincere in what he says, and I know of seven of his principal counsellors who strongly oppose Umhlakaza's orders; but

many of the others are lukewarm, or concealed converts, and a few of them make no secret in avowing their faith in Umhlakaza.

The main point now is, to keep Sandilli to his resolution, and to do this I will have to be constantly with him. My presence among the Gaikas may also have the effect of deterring many from killing their cattle, as they wish to keep this concealed,—which they cannot do if I am much among them.

* * * * * * * *

(Signed) Charles Brownlee,
Gaika Commissioner.

P.S.—The report respecting the move of troops across the Kei, I heard in Queen's Town. It is not a Kaffir fabrication. (Signed) C. B.

To the Chief Commissioner, British Kaffraria.

(No. 3.—Copy.)

Sir, Pato's Great Place, August 5, 1856.

A day or two ago a Kaffir brought two oxen here, and stated that he had found them wandering about, had taken charge of them, had gone with them to Fort Pato, and had not found the owner; Pato was absent. I enclose a paper, which, if you approve of it, I intended to have posted in King William's Town, but as I am awaiting the return of Pato here, perhaps you will kindly have it done for me.

Dilima came this morning, and said he was much troubled, &c., that he had heard on all sides the Government were about to make war against the Kaffirs, because, among other reasons, spoors had been traced into Pato's and Umhala's country, and no robbers found, and that you were constantly writing to Mr. Brownlee about it. It was not denied by him this morning that the people were killing cattle because of the orders of the prophet, but he did not directly say it was so.

He some time ago told he would not kill his, and as far as I know, he has not done so. I hear Pato has obtained plenty of cattle from his people; but he is still with Cobus Congo, or at least on the other side of the Buffalo. I have not heard it denied that he is gone to see the prophet, but no one says he has: one man says, "If he has, where is the harm? He will then make up his mind as to the folly of trusting to his words, and tell his people his opinion." I replied to Dilima in the way I thought best, by saying that I did not believe that the Government would make the war first—that any just demands of the Government would of course be carried, and that the Government would hold its own, but that I believe that the Governor and Government would much sooner take any amount of trouble to teach the benefit of peace and civilization, than have the trouble of beating them again. He said he could not see what the Kaffirs ever gained by war, as no chief or tribe is in the place it wishes to be, or were before the last wars, even they find themselves here instead of their own country. I alluded to the excellent state of preparation we were in, and that I believed that we were tired of war, and that no peace would be made again, till all were thoroughly beaten over the Kei.

I have with me a complaint against the chief Macomo, for detaining a wife of a Pato's man illegally. I await the arrival of Pato. When he arrives I will take him over to Fort Murray. I kept this till to-day, the 7th, in hopes of being able to add news; but all I hear is that Pato is still ill, and has sent for his great wife Noxina. This she came to tell me to-day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Herbert Vigne.

P.S.—Pato, the other day, spoke very temperately about the Mount Coke people and Fingoes, and alleged that they cut poles and spars in large numbers in his forests, without asking his leave.

Statement of the Chief Siwani, before the Chief Commissioner.

Fort Murray, August 8, 1856.

I have come to MacLean to communicate to him the little news I have heard since I last met him.

A few days ago a man arrived at my kraal, having been sent by Kama, to hear from me the news, and to ascertain what course I intended to take in connexion with the prevailing excitement and talk about Umhlakaza; that he sent to me two words, the first was that if I intended to remain faithful to the Government, in the event of an outbreak, that I was to do so altogether, and not by half measures; and that in such case he (Kama) would be my friend and father, and uphold and support me in the eyes of the Government.

The second word was, that if, on the contrary, I wished to throw off the Government, and take up arms against it, I must in like manner open my heart to him, and he would then look upon me as an enemy, and treat me as such. Kama further went on to point out to me the absurdity of Umhlakaza's talk, that his (Kama's) belief was in the Word of God, and he could see nothing in that which could justify him in placing the least faith in the prophecies.

I replied to Kama that I thanked him for his advice, that I considered him as my father, as he took care of me when I was a child, that I disbelieved all the talk about Umhlakaza, and had done all in my power to dissuade my people from following his foolish predictions;

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

but in spite of all I could say, many of my followers killed their cattle. The majority, however, had as yet not done so; and I assured Kama that, even should I be forsaken by all, it would in no way tend to shake my fidelity with the Government; but that, on the contrary, I would, should a war take place, prove my loyalty by taking up arms against my own countrymen. I likewise told Kama that MacLean had just made me a present of a plough, and that I possessed a waggon and oxen, and these two things were my support, and a help to my family, who, if I joined in war, would die from hunger and cold.

I have only further to acquaint MacLean that, at the beginning of the last war, I told him some of my followers had joined the Gaikas; and I now again tell him that many of my people are listening to the foolish sayings of the prophet, and are killing their cattle. The most of these are Seyola's branch of the tribe, which, when Seyola was sent away, MacLean placed under my charge, and who now cling to Seyola's son, Bangi, as their chief, and who, I am sorry to say, together with Bangi, entirely disregard all my efforts in advising them not to dispose of their property.

I would advise a general meeting to be held by the Governor, so that each chief may explain his intentions; and I hope then to prove to the Governor and MacLean my sincerity, by uttering my views and the thoughts of my heart in public, without fearing either chiefs or people.

It is astonishing the impression the prevailing prophecies have on the minds of the Kaffirs, and I can only view it as the curse of God which is coming on this people.

Witness:

GEORGE M. SHEPSTONE,
Clerk and Int. to Chief Com.

MEMORANDA taken at a MEETING of KAFFIRS, assembled at Kama's Great Place on Monday, the 4th August 1856.

Kama.—It is I who have called you together, not for the purpose of talking lightly over any subject, but to be decided; and for the sake of truth I wish you to give me the news, and, as your chief, to tell me what is doing amongst you. When I came to *this* country, I had 300 faithful men, with the understanding that so long as they remained here they were to be faithful; that if any more came in they were to conform to our views of loyalty. I wish, therefore, to know if such is the case, and for that reason I say, give me the news.

[*No reply.*]

Kama continues.—I hear there is some one who is called Umhlakaza, whose object is mischief. Whatever there is among you in reference to that man, do not conceal it from me. I ask you again, what are your news?

[*No reply.*]

Kama continues.—I have often called my people together, they have always readily attended to my call; when they have on former occasions been assembled together by my orders, such spears were not seen as I see to-day in your hands. What do they *now* mean?

Gweleta.—What are the news you allude to? and who do you expect to give them?

Kama.—I wish to have no display of rhetorical powers at present from any one here, and far less from you, Gweleta,—you who were the companion of my youth,—you who were presented to me by my father, who thus signified his expectation that you would be faithful to me, and his hope that you would always be by my side; and, considering this, instead of sitting where you are, outside the circle, you ought to be the principal man among these aged counsellors of Cungwa, who are now beside me. Have you performed my father's expectations? Have you not associated yourself with Bolo,—a woman who spreads the same words of Umhlakaza, and have been "washed" by her? You say you believe Umhlakaza's words. He says that the old chiefs are to rise from the dead; go, then, to this favoured spot and see Cungwa. Ask him if this was his intention when he presented you to me,—that you should lift up your head and despise his son.

Mate.—O Chief, we all acknowledge you as our father—our chief. Do not pour down your anger on your dog, but tell us what you require of us.

Kama.—You are a son of Pato, but you are my child, Mate. Do not try and make the Qunukwebes conceal from me what they know. I do not wish you to speak. I sent word to you, to Samuel, to Sama, Cwadi, and Hirra, to try and persuade the people of your districts not to listen to Umhlakaza's reports. I expected, and placed confidence in you all, that you would do your duty in this respect. The people have, nevertheless, believed these reports. They have killed their cattle. I therefore call on those who have done so to give me the news I ask. My heart has long searched and wept to find out the truth. I can find no sleep, when I think that Cungwa's people are acting as they do,—that they are despising Cungwa's son, and that they thus make their wicked hearts their chief, and overlook the true one. I do not wish you, my child, to waste your words. I know you. If, therefore, you are inclined to speak, let it only be to state whether or not you approve of the works of my people. Let the people answer my request for news.

Hashe.—Speak now. You have always been boasting in your houses, at your kraals, and in absence of your chief, of Umhlakaza. Has he told you that when you assemble before your chief you are to leave your faith in him in your houses, that you thus keep your mouths shut?

[*N.B.—Gweleta was overheard by Kama at this time making some remarks in a whisper, and Kama addressed him.*]

Kama.—With the present sorrow of my heart, Gweleta, I could put you to death where you are, therefore beware of your words.

Sama.—You have alluded to my name. By relationship I am your child; by residence I am your subject. It will always be my aim to do what you order me, and to make my people perform the same. What will please you, I will do. My path will be pointed out by you.

Samuel Kama.—Ye chiefs who have replied, you have answered like sons of the great chiefs who are dead. You, Mate, have left your father; you are now Kama's son. Your father, Sama, is dead; you are now Kama's son also. I also am Kama's son. Kama looks to us. He has already sent his orders to us. We have told our people to obey them. Is this sufficient? No, we must make them obey. We must see to it that the chief is obeyed. Kama says he does not wish to have a waste of words; he wants the truth. I have only one truth to state, that I agree with Kama's views, and that my intention is to walk in the same path in which Kama walks, so that his soul will not look upon me when he is dead, and say, "My son is doing what is wrong."

Sityе.—Why are the people quiet? Have not Hahabe, Tshaka, and Cungwa been seen by Umhlakaza? You who believe what Umhlakaza says, have you seen these chiefs?—Have they told you, common people, to raise yourselves in pride above our born chief, and thus try to kill him?

Kama.—I have not many words, my councillors. Chiefs alone can take away this, my cloak, and kill me, and be without blame. Let a common man take my cloak. Let him kill me, and see how long he will enjoy that chieftainship which his pride has induced him to covet. Gweleta, you have been washed by the "doctor," but you are my subject: answer me.

Gweleta.—I know nothing of what you speak [*and tries to deny the charge.*]

Kama.—Be still. As recently as yesterday morning you were washed. I know it. I will not be deceived.

Gweleta.—True, I have killed; but it was for the purpose of making a kaross for my wife.

Kama.—Keep to what I say. I am not talking about your killing, but of your being washed, thus believing that I ought to be killed.

Mate.—Forgive him, our chief. He is your dog; a dog sometimes receives mercy.

Kama.—Be still, my child. Gweleta has believed these reports; others who are here have also believed them, as also some others who have refused to attend to my call. What kind of men are they thus to despise their chief? Can mercy be shown to those who would break up and scatter the tribe of Cungwa. Why, I ask, has Gweleta "washed?" and you, too, Qogo—(I only call on those who were presented to me by my father, and whom I expected would be true to me). Why are you, Qogo, slaughtering your cattle? Have *you* also seen Cungwa, and has he told you to despise his son? There is also Sobeni.

Qogo.—Who told you?

Kama.—I have not called you for the purpose of disputing me. I want the truth, and I therefore speak the truth.

Qogo.—I have only killed three for women's dresses.

Kama.—Qogo says he has only killed three. I know he has killed six; and done so believing what Umhlakaza says. I gave an order that no cattle should be killed. Have I been obeyed? My present country has been given to me by the English Government; the Governor is my chief; the Queen is my great chief. Whoever lives in this country must also look up to the same Governor and the same Queen as myself. I have one word; it is this,—these reports must not be believed by those who live in this country.

Why should such a step be taken first by common people? They are despising their chief's authority. I have given my word that I am decided. The assistance you look for will never come. There is another man (Xola) whose name I would have called; but he is not here. Whoever does not agree with my views, let him leave my country. To those who wish to remain, my word is "do not believe these sayings." Umhlakaza has not a god of his own. You who believe on him, go to Umhlakaza. I will not allow you to break my power. None but the Queen of England can break my chieftainship. She will break it only for one reason, and that is, if I despise her. I know that Umhlakaza has gained your favour. You are killing cattle? You believe what he says; but until the Queen or her representative tells me that Umhlakaza's sayings are true, I will never believe them. I will even risk my life in opposing him, and I call on God to be my judge, that I would then be doing what is right; and he that would say I was erring, despises that God, and despises the Queen and me. I say, I am a chief, and I boast of this, because the Queen approves of it; and I say that it is the will of God that I should be a chief.

Hashe.—I feel a delight when I hear our chief thus speak. They are the words of a chief. Our chief assembled us on a former occasion; he told us not to kill our cattle. Have some not killed since, and will they not kill, even after they now hear?

Kama.—If they wish to despise me, and if they desire to kill me, they *will* slaughter their cattle. But this is the last meeting I will have on the subject. Let those who believe what Umhlakaza says, leave me and live with him; though they are Cungwa's subjects, I will not prevent them. I would rather they would do this at once than remain with me.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Dema.—You hear your chief. Why do we see him so sorrowful to-day? What would Cungwa say, if he saw his son so sorrowful? Would he say my people are treating my son with respect? What a shame it is that you, the common people, should act as you have done. To whom are we to look as our chief when he is thus despised? Kama has spoken. He must not allow his father's people to be scattered by Umhlakaza.

Kobokana.—The people are dying of hunger: what is to be done? Are they not to kill their cattle for food?

Kama.—If they have cattle, I do not prevent them; but it is not from hunger that the cattle are killed. They are not even killed in honour of old customs, but for the sake of Umhlakaza.

Sityе.—The chief is right. The people do not kill their cattle on account of hunger; they do it in obedience to what Umhlakaza tells them. The cattle are not all dying of the lung-sickness, nor are they killed for the purpose of making karosses for the women. If so, why are the hides carried about for sale? And why do the Englishmen notice that they are not the hides of cattle which have died of the lung-sickness? And yet you say that those which you have killed were for the purpose of making karosses for the women.

Kama.—And what do you say of your corn, your fowls, and your goats? What do you make of them? I hear you are disposing of all these. And why, because of Umhlakaza. I am in sorrow; my people, what have I done that I should thus be treated? I am decided. My orders will not be broken. I will maintain my chieftainship, though a common man covets it. I will not let him remain and enjoy it. I finish. I have told my headmen to watch; and if they find any one taking corn or fowls for sale, they must deprive them of it, and make me acquainted with all that is going on.

(Signed) F. Reeve,
Capt. 73d Reg., Special Magistrate.

Truly interpreted.
(Signed) W. B. Chalmer, C. and I.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

No. 1. No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY.

(Confidential.)

SIR, Downing Street, March 25, 1856.

HER Majesty's Government are anxious to have the benefit of your opinion upon a subject of great urgency and importance.

There is now every prospect of a speedy conclusion of peace, and it becomes a question how the officers and men of the Anglo-German Legion can most properly be disposed of.

It has occurred to Her Majesty's Government that some of them may, with advantage to themselves and to the colonies, be established on the frontiers of the British possessions in South Africa.

A steamer will be specially sent to the Cape with an officer on board charged to communicate with you on this matter, who will be able to furnish you with the necessary information as to the number of such settlers who are likely to be available, and all other points of detail.

I am well aware that your attention has already been given to the question of military colonization of this description. This circumstance, as well as your local knowledge of the frontiers of the British colonies in South Africa, will enable you to give us the best advice upon all the points which must be taken into consideration before the measures which are contemplated can be carried into effect, and no final step will be taken upon them until your opinion shall have been received.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 2. No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir G. GREY.

(No. 56.)

SIR, Downing Street, April 22, 1856.

I HAVE received your Despatches of the Nos. and dates noted in the margin. No. 8, Feb. 8, 1856, page 1. No. 9, Feb. 11, 1856, page 3. No. 11, Feb. 15, 1856, page 5

I learned with much satisfaction from the latest of those Despatches that the apprehension which had been entertained of an immediate outbreak of the Native tribes beyond the frontier of the Cape of Good Hope had passed away.

Her Majesty's Government place great confidence in your vigilance and judgment, and they entertain a hope that if the scheme which has been proposed to you, of sending to the colony a portion of the Anglo-German Legion, is carried into effect, it may be the means of giving increased security to the frontier for the future.

I approve of your intention of instituting immediate inquiries into the grievances of which the Hottentot inhabitants of the Kat River settlement complain, with a view of redressing such of them as may appear to be real.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 3.

No. 3.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 61.)

Sir, Downing Street, May 10, 1856.

* *Vide* Papers presented June 1856, page 13.

With reference to your Despatch,* No. 134, of 7th December last, recommending that the limited number of enrolled pensioners who had volunteered to proceed to British Kaffraria should be sent out from this country, I transmit for your information a copy of a letter from the War Department on the subject.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

Encl. in No. 3.

Enclosure in No. 3.

Sir, War Department, May 5, 1856.

I have laid before Lord Panmure your letter of the 26th ultimo, with its enclosures from the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, relating to the apprehension of an outbreak among the Native tribes on the frontier of the colony.

With regard to the sending out pensioners to the colony, to which you refer in the last paragraph in your letter, I am to state for the information of Mr. Secretary Labouchere that it has not been deemed necessary by Lord Panmure to ascertain whether the few pensioners who had volunteered in the summer of last year to proceed to the Cape of Good Hope were still willing to do so, whilst the larger and apparently more useful measure of settling the disbanded soldiers of the British German Legion in that colony was under reference to the Governor, Sir George Grey; but that his Lordship has been informed by the superintendent of pensioners that it is probable that very few of the men who had so volunteered could be depended upon, were the offer (which is not regarded as sufficiently advantageous) to be renewed.

I am to take this opportunity of acquainting you that Lord Panmure has requested the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief to send out forthwith to the Cape, if the state of the corps will admit of it, a company of Sappers and Miners to assist in the establishment of the proposed military villages on the frontier.

I have, &c.

H. Merivale, Esq., &c. &c. (Signed) G. C. Mundy.

No. 4.

No. 4.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 63.)

Sir, Downing Street, May 17, 1856.

* Page 5.

I have received your Despatch,* No. 10, of February 22, transmitting returns of public works in progress in British Kaffraria for the months of December and January last, and I learn with much pleasure that the employment of native labourers on these works continues to be successful.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 5.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 67.)

Sir, Downing Street, May 27, 1856.

* Page 10.

I have received your Despatch, No. 18,* of 14th March, transmitting a copy of the speech which you delivered at the opening of the third session of the Cape Parliament. I have read this document with much interest, and I regard the statements which it contains as to the condition of the natives as highly satisfactory. On some of the other topics noticed in your speech, I shall probably address you on a future occasion.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 70.)

SIR, Downing Street, June 2, 1856.

I HAVE received your Despatch,* No. 12, of 22d March, transmitting a copy of a report from Captain Reeve, of the 73d Regt., the magistrate placed with the chief Kama, under the new system for the administration of justice amongst the Kaffir tribes in British Kaffraria; and I have learnt with satisfaction that this system has proved acceptable to the chief and to his people.

* Page 16.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 7.

No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH form the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 75.)

SIR, Downing Street, June 12, 1856.

I HAVE to acquaint you that a further grant of 40,000*l.* has been made by the British Parliament, to enable you to prosecute the measures which you have adopted for ensuring permanent tranquillity on the frontier of the Cape of Good Hope.

Her Majesty's Government have recommended this grant to Parliament in reliance on the expectation which you held out, when a grant for this purpose was first proposed, that a reduction should be made in the amount at a very early period. Before the period arrives for again bringing this vote under the consideration of Parliament, I shall be glad to receive from you a full report upon the results of the expenditure already authorized, and showing the amount and intended application of any further grants which Parliament may be willing to sanction.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 8.

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY.

(Confidential.)

SIR, Downing Street, July 7, 1856.

I HAVE only learnt as yet, through the newspapers and from a letter of Commodore Trotter to the Admiralty, enclosing one from Major General Jackson, the clamour which seems to have prevailed in the colony of the Cape in consequence of the hostile disposition manifested by the frontier tribes, and that you had sent to the Mauritius for a regiment.

Her Majesty's Government, however, will, probably, deem it right to take immediate measures to reinforce the military establishment which is now stationed in the colony either by sending out one or two additional regiments, or by enrolling the soldiers of the German Legion for the purpose of serving at the Cape for some time before they are absolutely settled there. I shall be very anxious to receive from you accounts of the estimate which you form of the danger of a serious conflict with the frontier tribes, with regard to which I have at present only very vague information. I have written to the Board of Admiralty on the subject of an additional steamer.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 9.

No. 9.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 78.)

Sir, Downing Street, July 14, 1856.

* Pages 20 and 31.

I have received your Despatches* of the 24th and 30th April, with their enclosures, and have lost no time in submitting their contents to the serious consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

2. Although it does not appear to be your own opinion that the probability of an extensive combination of Native tribes to attack the colony is as great as is apprehended by the Lieut.-General commanding the forces, and others, yet it is obvious that you consider it of urgent importance to place the British territory in a more secure position than it now is, with the view of averting so great an evil as the possible recurrence of a wide spread Kaffir war, or of dealing with it vigorously and promptly in the event of its breaking out.

3. Her Majesty's Government approve of the steps which you have taken, of applying to the Governor of Mauritius for the temporary aid of a regiment from that colony. They have also determined to send from this country, as soon as possible, considerable reinforcements * * *

* * * * * * *

4. A war steamer which carries out this Despatch will likewise be rendered available for the public service, and will, no doubt, be able to render you the most important assistance, in combination with military movements.

5. Although Her Majesty's Government have felt it to be their duty to take these measures to meet the present emergency, they have no intention of departing from the principle which had been previously adopted and announced, (especially in the Despatch of the Duke of Newcastle to Sir G. Cathcart, of the 14th March 1853,) of expecting that the main reliance of the colonists against external aggression should ultimately be placed in their own exertions, and not in the military resources of the Imperial Government. In accordance with this policy, I lately communicated to you a scheme for the settlement of the officers and soldiers of the Foreign Legion, on an extensive scale, on the frontiers of the colony, and I anxiously await your answer to this proposal, which, if carried into effect, will, I trust, produce the most beneficial results in providing permanently for the safety of the British territories in South Africa. I hope that you will also omit no opportunity of impressing on the colonial Legislature the dutyof rendering as effective as possible the militia and other local forces. But in the interval which must elapse before these measures can be matured, Her Majesty's Government do not feel warranted in refusing to afford to the colony that assistance which may be required to avert a calamity which would grievously endanger the repose and prosperity which it now happily enjoys.

6. It is manifest that the existence of the independent states of the Orange River and Trans-Vaal territories has a tendency to complicate the relations between the British colonies and the Native tribes. I rely with confidence on your prudence and experience to obviate, as far as possible, any danger which may arise from this source, and to avoid implicating the colonists in disputes which may occur among their neighbours.

7. I have read with great satisfaction the accounts which are contained in these Despatches, as well as in that of the 3d April, of the success which has attended your policy with regard to the Natives in British Kaffraria, and of the prosperous and tranquil state of that province.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 10.

No. 10.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 85.)

Sir, Downing Street, August 5, 1856.

* Page 33.

I have received your Despatch marked "Confidential,"* of 30th May, reporting the arrival at the Cape of Good Hope of Major Grant, who had been

charged to communicate with you regarding the settlement of the British-German Legion in that colony, and transmitting a copy of a message which you had sent down to the House of Assembly on the subject.

I am glad to learn that the measures proposed by Her Majesty's Government are, in your opinion, so well adapted to the circumstances of the colony, and that the Cape Parliament will be ready to vote money towards defraying the expense.

After Major Grant's return to this country, which may now be daily expected, no time will be lost in sending out detachments of the British German Legion to the Cape.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 11.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 86.)

Sir, Downing Street, August 5, 1856.

I have received your Despatch,* No. 39, of 30th May, transmitting two Addresses from the Legislative Council of the Cape of Good Hope, one to yourself, expressing their earnest desire to co-operate in the proposed measures for locating the British German Legion in that colony; the other to the Queen, offering their congratulations on the peace, and expressing their sense of the benignity of Her Majesty's rule.

* Page 35.

You will be so good as to make known to the Legislative Council that their Address to the Queen was most graciously received by Her Majesty.

The readiness expressed by the Council to promote to the utmost of their power the measures which may be adopted for settling the British German Legion in the colony, has given much satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 12.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. the Earl of Clarendon to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 90.)

Sir, Downing Street, August 12, 1856.

I have received your Despatch,* No. 13, of 3d April, forwarding returns of public works in progress in British Kaffraria in the month of February last, and I am glad to find that the experiment of employing Kaffirs on those works continues to be successful.

* Page 17.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) CLARENDON. (In Mr. Labouchere's absence.)

No. 13.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 91.)

Sir, Downing Street, Sept. 7, 1856.

I have received your Despatch,* No. 46, of the 5th of June last, accompanied by a copy of the speech with which you have prorogued the Parliament of the Cape of Good Hope.

* Page 37.

I cannot but express the gratification with which I have learned the satisfactory course of the Session thus closed, and the exertions which have been made by the Parliament for promoting the welfare of the colony.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 14.

No. 14.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 99.)

Sir, Downing Street, October 1, 1856.

* Pages 38 and 46. I have received your Despatches,* No. 50, of 6th June, and No. 60, of 14th July, in the latter of which especially, after having just returned from the frontier, you report your disbelief in any general design, on the part of the Native tribes, to unite in hostilities against the Cape colony.

Her Majesty's Government have received this intelligence with much satisfaction, and have also been greatly interested in hearing of the progress made in the plans which have been set on foot for the improvement of British Kaffraria, and the state of contentment evinced by both the Native and European inhabitants of that province.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 15.

No. 15.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 100.)

Sir, Downing Street, October 2, 1856.

* Page 41. I have received your Despatch,* No. 54, of 7th June, in which you enclose a copy of a letter you had written to the President of the Orange Free State, inviting him to address you upon any future occasion of threatened danger from the Basutos or other Native tribes beyond the boundary, in order that you might ascertain whether it would be consistent with your duty to intervene in the interests of peace.

I entirely approve of your proceedings in this matter.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C,B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 16.

No. 16.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 105.)

Sir, Downing Street, October 12, 1856.

* Page 61. With reference to my Despatch,* No. 75, of the 12th June last, in which I stated that, before the period arrived for again bringing the vote for British Kaffraria under the consideration of Parliament, I should be glad to receive from you a report upon the results of the expenditure already authorized, and showing the amount and intended application of any further grant which Parliament might be willing to sanction, I have further to request that you will at the same time, and also in each succeeding year, so long as any expenditure for this service shall be incurred, furnish me with a detailed abstract of the sums which may have been disbursed during the preceding year. As I am not in possession of any account of the expenditure for the year 1855, it will be requisite that an abstract for that year should accompany the one to be prepared for 1856.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 17

No. 17.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 110.)

Sir, Downing Street, November 5, 1856.

I duly received your Despatches of the numbers and dates mentioned in the margin, respecting the settlement of the Anglo-German Legion, or of

such part of the corps as should volunteer for the purpose, as military colonists at the Cape of Good Hope. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

I transmitted the whole of these Despatches to the Secretary of State for the War Department, with whom it rested to decide and act upon many of the practical suggestions therein contained. No. 51, June 6, 1856, page 41. No. 1, July 10, 1856, page 43.

A meeting was then convened by desire of Lord Panmure and myself, consisting of two or three officers of his Lordship's and of my department, of Baron Stutterheim to represent the interests of the German Legion, and of Major Grant, who was in a position to supply from personal knowledge the latest particulars on local circumstances in the colony, and to afford any explanations which might be necessary upon your views. These gentlemen concurred in recommending the terms which were subsequently adopted, and issued on the 24th of September last, and of which I send you some printed copies with the present Despatch. No. 2, July 11, 1856, page 43. No. 3, July 11, 1856, page 44. No. 4, July 12, 1856, page 45. No. 5, July 14, 1856, page 46. Enclosure No. 1.

You will find that these terms follow substantially the recommendations contained in the clear and comprehensive Memorandum which you furnished in your Despatch,* No. 4, of the 12th of July. The deviations are either such changes in the form of expression as were needed in order to give the requisite brevity and precision to the conditions when offered to a large miscellaneous body of men, or else such modifications as, from the present state and disposition of the troops, were believed to be advisable in order to give a due probability that they would accept the offer and embark in the undertaking. * See page 45 and Note.

After the promulgation of the terms, it was found necessary to grant an advance of 2*l.* to men who would volunteer, in order to enable them to discharge small debts, or provide for the other objects which may naturally be requisite in starting for a distant country.

At first there was some hesitation. Although there could be little doubt that the proposed emigration to the Cape would be for the permanent advantage of men of steady character, yet it is to be remembered that they had to relinquish the receipt of a large sum in ready money, which, by the terms of their enlistment, they were entitled to claim in case of taking their immediate discharge. Several of the men might have formed plans, or entered into engagements with their friends, founded on the expectation of this payment. Moreover, there were not wanting external agencies desirous of procuring the services of the soldiers of the Legion upon their release, and prepared, therefore, to lead them into doubt by making them conflicting offers.

I am happy, however, to state that upwards of 2,300 men have now volunteered for the service, and that it is hoped that the whole of this number will be despatched before the end of the present month. I enclose, for your information, the copy of a letter from the War Department, reporting the particulars of these volunteers, and of the arrangements made for their conveyance to their destination. Nov. 3, 1856. Enclosure No. 2.

By the same letter you will also perceive some measures adopted by the Secretary of State for War, beyond those provided for in the printed conditions. You will see also that Lord Panmure has appointed Major Grant as temporary Military Secretary, on special service, to be attached to you for the purposes suggested in your Despatch* No. 3, dated the 11th of July, of superintending the disposal of lands reserved in the vicinity of the military settlements, and of constituting the organ of communication in the colony with you upon all questions connected with the establishment of the military colony. Lord Panmure has likewise named Baron Stutterheim and Colonel Wooldridge to be Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner, and has made some minor appointments, which you will find specified in the enclosed letter. * Page 44.

The troops, you will observe, go out in their existing character of soldiers of the Legion, and are only to be disbanded after arrival. Some provision will then be necessary for properly establishing and defining by law their military *status* in their new capacity of military colonists, upon which subject, however, I shall address you in a separate communication.

The present Despatch has now, I think, put you in possession of all which has been done up to this time in engaging the service of volunteers and providing for their conveyance. I regret that their number has fallen so far short of the total amount of force which you are desirous to obtain, and for the disposal of which upon the frontier you furnished so able a plan. Nevertheless, I cannot but hope that the arrival of between two and three thousand men

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trained to the use of arms, in case of war, and anxious at the same time to enter on the pursuits of industry, if peace should happily be preserved, will prove a substantial benefit to the colony, as well as to themselves. The rest will now depend upon you. It is quite unnecessary to say that every expectation held out to these men should be faithfully executed; and I feel that it must be superfluous for me to recommend to your superintending care a measure of policy which has been so well advocated by yourself, and which you are so highly qualified to turn to its best account.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

Encl. 1 in No. 17.

Enclosure 1 in No. 17.

CONDITIONS for the FORMATION of a MILITARY SETTLEMENT in British South Africa.

War Department, September 24, 1856.

1. THE officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of the British German Legion may claim the fulfilment of the articles of capitulation under which the entered Her Majesty's service; or,

2. They may be sent as military settlers to the Cape of Good Hope and British Kaffraria on the following terms:—

I. *Duties.*

3. They will be liable to serve as military settlers from the date of their landing in South Africa, and for seven years after their location, as follows:—

First.—They are to resist the attacks of an enemy, or to aid the civil power.

4. *Second.*—They are to attend for exercise on such days as the Governor may appoint during the first three years (not exceeding 30 days in any one year), and to muster every Sunday for church parade.

5. *Third.*—For the last four years they are to attend for exercise on such 12 days in each year as the Governor may appoint, and for muster every Sunday for church parade.

II. *Imperial and Colonial Engagements with the Military Settlers.*

6. For the above-mentioned services the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates who may volunteer and be approved, will be conveyed to South Africa free of expense, the officers being furnished with a mess, and the soldiers with provisions during the voyage. They will take with them their arms, accoutrements, uniforms, and camp equipage, and will be provided with a canvas frock and trousers for the voyage.

7. They will receive free rations from the day of their landing, and for one year after their location, or a commuted money allowance of equal value.

8. They will receive pay up to the day of *embarkation.*

9. From the day of landing in South Africa, and for three years from the date of their location, they will receive the following rates of pay:

	s.	*d.*	
Pay or Colour-Serjeant - - - - -	1	2	per day.
Serjeant - - - - - - - -	0	11	,,
Corporal - - - - - - - -	0	8	,,
Private - - - - - - - -	0	6	,,

(Trumpeters and buglers the same as privates.)

10. When called out for service in the field against the enemy, or in aid of the civil power, the pay of all ranks will be made up to the same rate as that of Her Majesty's troops. This expense will be borne by Colonial funds, in the case of their services being required in aid of the civil power, and by Imperial funds when they are employed against an enemy.

Pensions.

11. Every military settler, whether officer, non-commissioned officer, or private, wounded or disabled in defence of the colony will be granted the allowance for wounds received in action which may be sanctioned by the regulations in force in the colony for the time being.

12. An advance of 5*l.* will be made to each man to provide himself with cooking utensils and tools, to be repaid during the second and third years of service.

13. Each non-commissioned officer and private, if located in a town already inhabited by a European population, will be allowed a building lot on which to erect his house. If located in a village or new settlement, he will be allowed an acre of garden ground in addition to a building lot.

14. They will have the same rights regarding depasturing stock on the common lands as the other inhabitants of the place where they may be located.

15. The details of the location of the force will be carried out by their own officers, from amongst whom a system of local magistracy may be provided.

16. Each non-commissioned officer and private will be required to build a cottage on the land allotted to him. For this purpose an allowance will be made,—

For a non-commissioned officer	£20
A private	18

to be expended under the superintendence of the officers of the force appointed for that object.

17. The cottage and land will be held rent-free for the seven years of his military service, provided he conforms to the rules and regulations laid down for his guidance, and subject to the provisions of Article 23.

18. The house, when built, must be kept in good repair without expense to the public.

19. Until the cottages be built the men will have the use of their tents, or of such temporary huts as they may erect from materials at hand.

20. At the end of seven years from the date of location, the land, buildings, and improvements thereon will become the absolute property of the military settler if he has fulfilled the conditions of his agreement, and he will then be subject to no further military duty than that exacted from other settlers in defence of the country.

21. If an unmarried military settler should die before he shall have acquired a proprietary right to his house and land and improvements, they will revert to the Crown.

22. The funeral expenses of a member of the force who may die during the term of his military service will be borne by the Imperial Government, such charge in no case to exceed one guinea.

23. During the seven years of military service, the settlers will be liable to such rules as may be laid down by the Governor for their control. For minor offences, fines may be inflicted under the same authority; for more serious offences, any officer or man may be expelled the force by order of the Governor, and such expulsion will involve the deprivation of house and land, and of any other privileges which he may enjoy as a military settler.

Married Men.

24. The wives and families of non-commissioned officers and privates will be conveyed to South Africa free of expense for passage or provisions, and they may be provided with rations during the first year or any part of it, in locations in which the Governor of the colony may consider it necessary.

25. At every location, accommodation of a temporary nature is or will be provided for the families of the men, and for the safe custody of the arms and stores.

26. If a married settler die and leave a widow or a family, his lands, buildings, and improvements thereon shall become their property, according to the colonial law of inheritance, even if the deceased should not have fulfilled the full period of his military service.

27. The wives and children of non-commissioned officers or privates who may be now in Germany may be brought from Hamburg, Bremen, Rotterdam, or Ostend at the public expense, and may accompany their husbands and parents to South Africa, if they arrive in time, or they will be sent after them as opportunities occur.

28. The same indulgence will be extended to the affianced brides of unmarried non-commissioned officers and privates who can satisfy their commanding officer of the reality of the engagement of marriage.

Officers.

29. A reduced number of officers will be selected to accompany and form part of the force, viz. :—

1 Field officer	per 1,000 men.
15 Company officers	„
3 Medical officers	„
1 Staff officer (as paymaster and quartermaster)	„

30. The officers will receive from the day of their landing in South Africa, and for three years after their location, the half of their present rate of pay, except when called out for active service in the field, when this will be made up to the full pay and allowances of their rank, as per Article 10.

31. Each officer will receive an allotment of land for building and garden purposes of at least double the extent of that of a non-commissioned officer or private.

32. In lieu of barracks or house-rent, each officer will receive an allowance for the purpose of building on his land according to the following scale :—

	£
Field officer	200
Captain	150
Subaltern	100

To be paid in instalments regulated by the progress of the building.

33. The public lands in the colony are disposed of only by sale, but officers who go out

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under the present conditions will be allowed in the purchase of such lands a remission of the purchase money according to the following scale:—

	£
Field officers - - -	300
Captains - - - -	200
Subalterns - - - -	150

34. Any officer who shall, at the end of the first three years of service, or sooner, signify his intention not to prolong his service beyond the said period of three years, shall forfeit his house and such portion of his land, with the improvements thereon, as shall have been derived from the Government free grant, or was granted as the equivalent of the remission money referred to in the last paragraph, all of which shall revert to the Crown.

35. Every officer who continues to serve for the remaining four years of this engagement shall be liable to the same conditions as to service and pay as are already provided for non-commissioned officers and privates, in consideration of which every such officer shall, at the expiration of the full term of seven years, be entitled to a free grant as his *absolute property* of the house and building lots, and also of such land as he may have acquired by virtue of Article 33.

Married Officers.

36. Married officers will be allowed to take their wives and families to South Africa free of expense for passage or provisions, and a passage will be given to one unmarried female servant in addition to each family, if required.

37. The widows and children of officers will succeed to the lands and property of their husbands and parents, as in the case of non-commissioned officers and privates. (See Article 26.)

38. During the period of their service the officers will be required to discharge their military duties, and also to carry out the details of the location of their men.

(Signed) PANMURE.
R. VON STUTTERHEIM.

Encl. 2 in No. 17.

Enclosure 2 in No. 17.

SIR, War Department, November 3, 1856.

I AM directed by Lord Panmure to request that you will inform Mr. Secretary Labouchere that the arrangements for the formation of a military settlement at the Cape of Good Hope, by means of volunteers from the British German Legion, are now so far advanced that it is probable that a first detachment of about 30 officers and 1,146 non-commissioned officers and men, with their families, will sail from Portsmouth about the 9th instant, per ships named in the margin.

"Sultana" 10 officers, 576 men; "Culloden," 20 officers, 570 men; "Abyssinia," about 13 officers, 400 men; "Covenanter," 15 officers, 418 men; "Mersey," 15 officers, 328 men; "Stamboul," 500 men.

The total number of volunteers as at present known is 2,350; but hopes are entertained that a few more will offer themselves, and the ships named in the margin will be ready, on or before the 12th instant, for their conveyance.

At present there are only reported to be 300 women and 120 children with these settlers.

A doubt having arisen whether Article 66 of the Mutiny Act would permit the stoppage of pay for the voyage, if the men were to be considered as under the provisions of that Act, in respect to discipline, until landing in the Cape Colony, Lord Panmure has authorized the issue of full pay for the voyage, in amendment of Articles 8 and 9 of the conditions dated 24th September. His Lordship having previously sanctioned an advance of 2*l.* per man in this country, on account of the advance of 5*l.* promised by Article 12, has, in consequence of the above-named concession, directed this advance to be charged against the pay accruing for the voyage, so that the full amount of 5*l.* originally contemplated will be availing on their arrival.

The advance has been extended from 2*l.* to 5*l.* for serjeants, and 3*l.* for corporals; under certain circumstances also, to 2*l.* 15*s.* for privates, sums which it is calculated will still leave a small balance to be paid on landing.

With reference to the disbanding of the men after arrival at the Cape, Lord Panmure has directed the full number of discharge certificates to be forwarded with them, with a view to its being regularly effected from the date of their landing, when, by Article 9, the settlement pay commences.

The scale of camp equipage usually supplied to regiments taking the field, not being calculated to meet the wants of settlers, Lord Panmure has sanctioned the following additions to it, viz.:—

3,000 felling axes,
3,000 bill-hooks,
3,000 spades,
500 pick axes,
500 handbarrows,
500 wheelbarrows.

His Lordship has further directed that 200 spare round tents be put on board for the accommodation of the married people; but, with reference to the whole of these supplies,

I am to request that you will call the attention of Mr. Labouchere to the necessity of giving instructions to Sir George Grey, to whom they are consigned, to guard against any waste or improper use of them. The case of the medical officers and of the regimental staff officers, referred to in Art. 29, having been represented to Lord Panmure, his Lordship has consented to allow them the full pay of their ranks so long as their services are required: the latter will be required to give security of half the amount required from paymasters in the line. In consideration, also, of the expenses to which officers generally will unavoidably be put, his Lordship has conceded to the whole of them the same gratuity of three months' pay as if they had been discharged in England, in addition to the other advantages promised by the conditions.

In reference to the superior staff of the military settlers, I am to request that you will inform Mr. Labouchere that Baron Stutterheim and Colonel Wooldridge will follow the men in Her Majesty's steam ship "Vulcan," so as probably to arrive before the sailing ships; the former in the capacity of Chief Commissioner, the latter of Assistant Commissioner. Baron Stutterheim will receive the pay and allowances of a major-general on the staff while so employed. Lord Panmure has not at present determined on any special rate of pay for Colonel Wooldridge beyond that of a field officer under Art. 29; but I am to request that you will point out this energetic and able officer to Mr. Labouchere as peculiarly deserving of the notice of Sir G. Grey, and calculated to render him services which may afford a sufficient claim for superior advantages.

Adverting to Articles 5 and 6 of Sir George Grey's Despatch, Military, No. 6, of 11th July, I am to request that you will state to Mr. Labouchere, that Lord Panmure has appointed Major J. J. Grant as temporary military secretary, on special service, to be attached to the personal staff of the Governor, for the purpose of carrying out any arrangements Sir George Grey may find it necessary to make in reference to the sale of lands, and assist in his communications with the military settlers.

The staff of Baron Stutterheim will consist only of Major Follenius as assistant military secretary; but his Lordship has approved of two officers, Captain Hoffman and Captain Mills, being permitted to proceed to the colony as supernumeraries, with a view to the probable occasion the Governor will have for their services.

I am further to request, that you will inform Mr. Labouchere that, in consequence of the diminished number of volunteers, Lord Panmure has found himself, with regret, unable to extend the advantages of the conditions to several deserving officers who have manifested a great desire to partake in them. Some of these gentlemen state that they have given up commissions in other services to enter the British Foreign Legion; others plead that they are unable, for political reasons, to return to their homes. Finding that severe disappointment and distress would be occasioned by strictly limiting the number of officers to the number specified in Art. 29, Lord Panmure has approved of free passages being afforded to 20 supernumeraries, who are promised the same remission money as the regular settlers; and has further permitted about the same number of junior officers to proceed with the settlers under the designation of gentlemen cadets, and with the promise of the same advantages in respect to land and houses which are offered to non-commissioned officers.

An arrangement has been made with the owners of four of the six ships above named, by which all surplus provisions remaining on hand at the termination of the voyage will be landed, if required, at about 1*s.* a ration; and by which also the officers proceeding in those ships will be allowed to retain the bedding at half the original cost price. The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have further sanctioned the landing of all troop fitting hammocks and bedding, which are the property of the Crown, for the use of the settlers, if required.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. C. Mundy.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure No. 2.

Sub-Encl. in Encl. No. 12.

Proportion of tents, intrenching tools, &c., already ordered for 2,000 men proceeding to the Cape of Good Hope.

Round tents	142
Bill-hooks	260
Hatchets	141
Camp colours	24
Blankets	2,000
Rugs	2,000
Haversacks	2,000
Canteens	2,000
Camp kettles and bags	167
Hospital marquees	2
Pack saddles	2
Bridles, bat horse	2
Pack saddles for armourers	2
Bridles	2

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Spades	-	10
Shovels	-	10
Axes { Pick	-	10
Axes { Felling	-	10
Saws, cross-cut	-	10
Whetstones	-	12
Files for cross-cut saws	-	24

A further supply, in the same proportion for 1,000 men, has been provided by the Quartermaster-General.

No 18.

No. 18.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 115.)

Sir, Downing Street, November 10, 1856.

* Page 64.

In pursuance of the intimation conveyed in my Despatch,* No. 110, of November 5, I now proceed to address to you some observations respecting the legal position of the officers and men of the German Legion who have volunteered to proceed to the Cape.

2. These officers and men were enlisted under the provisions of the Act of Parliament, 18 & 19 Vict. cap. 2., which continue in force, as provided by sec. 6, only "during the then war, and for one year after the ratification of a definitive treaty of peace." And I have been informed by the law advisers of the Crown that this Legion, being "embodied under that statute, cannot be continued in the service of the Crown after the expiration of that period;" but they add that it is competent to Her Majesty to send them to the Cape of Good Hope, or elsewhere in her dominions, to serve until the end of the specified year, when they must be disbanded. Legally, therefore, the power of the Crown to retain these men in its service as soldiers must terminate in April next; and it is considered desirable that the act of disbanding should take place earlier, and, indeed, as soon as conveniently can be after their landing.

3. The conditions agreed to and subscribed by themselves, which were transmitted to you with my Despatch of the 5th instant, will then fix the necessary relations between them and the Colonial Government; but it will be necessary that a legal character should be given in certain respects to those relations. All legislation necessary for this purpose, as far as regards the settlers to be established in British Kaffraria, is within your own power. As regards the Cape colony, it rests with the Legislature; but I need not point out how desirable it will be that the legislation should be uniform.

4. Considering the able legal assistance which you possess at the seat of your Government, and the goodwill which the Legislature has evinced in assisting the emigration of these legionaries, it is, perhaps, scarcely necessary for me to give you very specific directions. There are, however, one or two points to which I will call your attention.

5. The legislation absolutely required seems to fall under two heads:—

(1.) Such provision as may be necessary to secure to the emigrants their rights and position as settlers. On this head, local experience and knowledge are sufficient for your guidance.

(2.) Such provisions as may be required to place them under military law, so far as and whenever this may be expedient. As far as the men themselves are concerned, they have consented (under Condition 23) to be liable to such rules as may be laid down by the Governor for their control; but no mere consent on their parts could supersede the ordinary course of law in the colony. This can only be done by legal provision.

6. By the Act 42 Geo. 3, cap. 90., which regulates the English militia, militiamen are rendered subject to the Mutiny Act, with certain exceptions, "while "assembled for the purpose of being trained and exercised;" and they are further generally subject to the same Act while "drawn out or embodied," in case of actual invasion or danger of insurrection (sec. 3), to which was added, by 17 & 18 Vict. cap. 13., the case of a state of war with any foreign power.

7. By the Canada Militia Act of 1855 (of which I send a copy, as it may be serviceable by way of precedent), the militia are made subject to the Articles

of War and the Mutiny Act whenever called out (sec. 67), which the Governor is empowered to do whenever he thinks it advisable, "by reason of war, invasion, or insurrection, or imminent danger of any of them." (Sec. 51.)

8. On the other hand, in clause 27 of your Memorandum, you specify that "every military settler, during his seven years of military service, is to be "liable to the provisions of the Mutiny Act and Articles of War."

9. I think this point requires your attentive consideration, namely, whether the military settlers shall be permanently subject to military law during the three years for which they are to receive pay from Her Majesty's Government, or whether it should be left to the Governor, when and where he thinks it advisable, to put military law in force as regards settlers, or such portions of that law, comprised in the Mutiny Act and Articles of War, as may appear to him required and in keeping with the conditions. This latter course, namely, leaving the introduction of military law to the discretion of the Governor, seems to be obviously the one most in accordance with the terms of condition 23.

10. With respect to the *status* of these men, they are not British subjects by birth, nor have they acquired any rights of such subjects by their military service; but I apprehend that this circumstance need occasion no legal difficulty in the colony, either as regards the officers or the men, inasmuch as, under the Act for the Naturalization of Aliens, 10 & 11 Vict. cap. 83., Colonial Legislatures have the power of conferring on aliens the privileges "or any of the privileges" of naturalization, and that the benefit of their military services may be secured, either with or without complete naturalization, as the Legislature may deem expedient.

11. I have only to add, that it is desirable to remember that all officers' commissions should run in the name of the Queen, and not of any inferior authority.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 19.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 119.)

Sir, Downing Street, November 14, 1856.

I have to acknowledge the very interesting account enclosed in your Despatch,* No. 80, of the 18th of August, of the success which has attended the system of affording medical relief in British Kaffraria to the natives of various races who may apply for it; and I request that you will assure Dr. Fitzgerald of the great satisfaction with which I have learned the success of his meritorious exertions.

* Page 51.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 20.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 121.)

Sir, Downing Street, November 15, 1856.

With reference to your Despatch,* No. 2, Military, of the 11th of July, I have to acquaint you that upon a requisition from the Deputy Commissary General at the Cape of Good Hope, approved by the Lieut.-General Commanding, orders have been given for sending out to the colony large supplies of biscuit and salt meat, in connexion with the arrangements for the despatch of the German military settlers to the Cape.

* Page 43.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

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No. 21.

No. 21.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right. Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 122.)

Sir, Downing Street, November 15, 1856.

* Page 41. With reference to your Despatch,* No. 51, of the 6th of June, forwarding a report from Colonel Bolton, commanding the Royal Engineers at the Cape of Good Hope, relative to the erection of buildings for the German military settlers, and the necessity for an increase in the engineer department for duly carrying on the service, I have to acquaint you that an additional company of Royal Sappers and Miners has been lately sent out to the colony, which, with the company already there, will constitute as large body of these men as Lord Panmure has felt himself justified in assigning to the colony.

His Lordship has further directed that a clerk of works and foreman should be sent out to the Cape, and has authorized working pay to be issued, if necessary, to five non-commissioned officers of Sappers while employed as superintendents of the works in contemplation.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 22.

No. 22.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 124.)

Sir, Downing Street, November 15, 1856.

* Page 64. With reference to my Despatch,* No. 110, of the 5th instant, I transmit for your information and guidance a copy of a letter from the War Department, apprising me of the further arrangements which have been completed for the despatch of the German military settlers to the Cape of Good Hope colony.

Nov. 12, 1856.

I have to call your special attention to Lord Panmure's recommendation that Colonel Wooldridge should be invested with the command and direction of the settlement, in the event of any unforeseen loss of Baron Stutterheim's services; and that he should receive your utmost support in case of any difficulties arising between the English and German officers in the absence of Baron Stutterheim.

You will also attend to his Lordship's wishes in regard to the unpacking and issuing of arms to the settlers.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

Encl. 1 in No. 22.

Enclosure in No. 22.

Sir, War Department, November 12, 1856.

Adverting to my letter of the 3d instant, I am now directed by Lord Panmure to request that you will inform Mr. Labouchere of the further arrangements for the despatch of the German military settlers to the Cape of Good Hope, which have been carried out since the date of that communication, and are as follows:—

Lord Panmure has approved of the following rates of staff and settlement pay:—

Baron R. Stutterheim, as Chief Commissioner, 37*s.* 11*d.* per diem, being equal to the staff pay of a Major-General, in addition to the local and other allowances of a Major-General.

Colonel J. W. Wooldridge, 31*s.* 3*d.* per diem, being equal to the staff pay of a Colonel, added to the settlement pay of a Field Officer of infantry.

Major G. Follenius, 25*s.* 6*d.* per diem, being equal to the full pay of a Substantive Major, and staff pay of a Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General.

Captain Charles Mills (Lieutenant 50th Foot), 13*s.* 3½*d.* per diem, being equal to the settlement pay of a Captain, added to the full pay of a Lieutenant. This officer's service will be temporary only, and he will be more particularly attached to Colonel Wooldridge.

Captain E. Hoffman, 11*s.* 7*d.* per diem, being equal to the full pay of his present rank. This officer will be attached to Baron Stutterheim as Military Assistant and Acting Engineer.

The pay of Major Grant, as temporary Military Secretary to Governor Sir George Grey, will be 19*s.* per diem.

The pay of the several classes of military settlers will be as follows:—

	s.	d.	
Field Officers, if Lieutenant-Colonels	8	6	per diem.
Ditto, if Majors	8	0	,,
Captains, Infantry	5	9½	,,
Captains, Cavalry	7	3½	,,
Lieutenants, Infantry	3	3	,,
Ditto, Cavalry	4	6	,,
Ensigns	2	7½	,,
Cornets	4	0	,,
Surgeons (with rank of Captain)	13	0	,,
Assistant-Surgeons (with rank of Lieutenant)	7	6	,,
Paymaster and Quartermaster (with rank of Captain)	12	6	,,
Chaplains (with rank of Major) 100*l.* a year, or	5	5½	,,
Gentlemen Cadets	1	2	,,

The number of young officers who have desired to avail themselves of the privilege of proceeding to the Cape, on the footing of Gentlemen Cadets, is at present 58. They will receive a pay of 2*s.* 4*d.* a day for the voyage, and of 1*s.* 2*d.* after landing, together with the advantages of non-commissioned officers in respect to settling.

It is to be hoped that the whole of the settlers will have sailed by the 17th instant, on which day Baron Stutterheim will embark in H.M.S. "Vulcan," with Colonel Wooldridge and his staff.

The freight ships "Sultana" and "Culloden" left Portsmouth for Spithead on the 10th instant, with about 1,146 men on board, chiefly of the unmarried section, and will proceed to sea at once.

Governor Sir George Grey will, it is presumed, give effect without delay to the several provisions of the "Conditions for the Formation of the Military Settlement," bearing date the 24th September; but I am to request that you will move Mr. Labouchere to instruct him in respect to those officers who go out as settlers in rank inferior to that which they held in the British German Legion. These officers are entitled to receive remission money on the purchase of lands, upon the scale of their rank as settlers only, with the exception of Lieutenant-Colonel Humphrey, who is going out as paymaster of the 2d regt. or corps. In special consideration of this officer's previous rank, age, and services, Lord Panmure recommends him for the advantages of a field officer in respect to remission money, and allowance for building a house.

With respect to Baron Stutterheim and Colonel Wooldridge, Lord Panmure is of opinion that they cannot claim higher advantages than are offered to field officers in respect to remission-money on the purchase of lands; and it will be for the future deliberation of Governor Sir George Grey whether especial consideration can be extended to them.

Having in my letter of the 3d instant adverted to the zeal and ability of Colonel Wooldridge, I have the honour now to add, by direction of Lord Panmure, that his Lordship recommends this officer for the command and direction of the settlement, in the event of any unforeseen loss of Baron Stutterheim's services. Lord Panmure would wish Governor Sir George Grey, therefore, to be informed that he may be relied upon as an intelligent and able officer, and instructed to give him the utmost support, in the event of any difficulties arising between the English and German officers in the absence of Baron Stutterheim, and which it may fall to his duty to arrange. Lord Panmure, however, trusts that the fairness and liberality with which all parties have been treated will ensure their harmony and zealous co-operation in the arduous work of organizing the future military settlements.

I am to request that you will intimate to Mr. Labouchere that Lord Panmure regards it of much importance that no arms whatever be unpacked or issued to the settlers until the Governor has authorized it. It might be desirable on this point that Sir G. Grey should consult Baron Stutterheim. With respect to ammunition, I am to state that 300,000 rounds have been shipped in the "Mersey" and the "Abyssinian;" and I am to take this opportunity of stating to you, for the information of Mr. Labouchere, that as the number of volunteers (about 2,400) will not permit the formation of three regiments or corps of the strength at first contemplated, Lord Panmure has directed them to be told off in three reduced regiments of equal strength, giving 800 instead of 1,000 men to each.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Department.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. C. Mundy.

No. 23.

No 23.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 133.)

Sir, Downing Street, December 4, 1856.

With reference to the fifth paragraph of your Despatch*, No. 4, of 12th July last, on the subject of the location of the Anglo-German Legion on

* Page 45.

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the frontier of the Cape of Good Hope, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's steam vessels "Megæra" and "Hermes" are being fitted for employment on the Cape Station, in pursuance of the recommendation of Commodore Trotter.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir G. Grey, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

Copy of Letter from Lord Panmure to Major Grant.

Sir, War Department, March 31, 1856.

1. The Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, Sir George Grey, having made urgent representations to Her Majesty's Government of the valuable acquisition which would be afforded to that colony by a settlement on its borders of a strong body of out-pensioners of Chelsea Hospital, on the plan which Sir George Grey so successfully carried out in New Zealand, and Her Majesty's Government having found it impossible to induce a sufficient number of pensioners to emigrate to the Cape on similar terms, it has been considered that the contemplated reduction, on the restoration of peace, of the British German Legion will present a favourable opportunity for affording to that important dependency of the Crown the elements of a system of military colonization of very high promise.

2. With this project in view, and in order to avoid the delay which might accrue from putting it in action by means of correspondence, I have, with the concurrence of Her Majesty's Government, selected you to be the bearer of the proposition in question to Sir George Grey, with whom you will put yourself in communication, and having fully discussed it with him, and possessed yourself of his views thereupon, you will return to England with as little delay as is compatible with the importance of your mission, and lay before me, for submission to the Government, the united report of the Governor and yourself.

3. The number of non-commissioned officers and privates who would, in all probability, offer themselves, and be eligible for this service, would amount, perhaps, to 8,000, and it is likely that a large proportion of officers would accompany them. The greater number of the men would have wives and families, and if it were thought desirable, others not at present married would be glad to enter that state with the prospect of a fixed settlement.

4. The German Legion would arrive at the Cape in complete military organization, with arms and camp equipage, and it would rest with the discretion of the Governor to dispose of them as policy and circumstances should dictate.

5. The choice of location for the proposed military colonies will necessarily remain with him, but I think it essential that each village should comprise as many men and their families as space can be found for. The villages should be not far distant from each other. Each man should have a cottage and a quarter of an acre of town land, with an outside or suburban allotment, such as Sir George Grey should think fair and reasonable.

6. As the scheme in the abstract may be considered perfectly feasible, although the details for its accomplishment remain to be settled, it will be absolutely necessary that measures should be immediately entered upon for providing shelter at least for the women and children on their arrival. The officers and men will be in possession of their tents, which can be used if necessary, and if not required, they can be consigned to the War Department stores.

7. The non-commissioned officers, drummers, and privates are, according to the articles of capitulation, entitled to a gratuity of a year's pay after their term of service has expired, that is to say, after they shall have been disbanded. This gratuity it is proposed to commute to a fixed pay of 6*d.* a day for three years, which would aid them in their subsistence until their land shall be brought into cultivation, but for the first year Her Majesty's Government would supply them with ration in kind, or an equivalent in money.

8. It is to be hoped that so valuable an addition to the population and defence of the colony would receive also temporary encouragement and assistance from the local Legislature; and as the presence of the pensioners will largely increase the value of the lands around their settlements, some security should be offered that when these lands are sold, a portion of the price thus augmented shall be applied to the benefit of the military settlers.

9. A church, a block-house, and a school must be erected in each village, either by the Imperial or the Colonial Government. All these buildings should be rendered at least bullet-proof up to a certain height from the ground.

10. A system of magistracy will have to be provided, either from among the officers accompanying the German regiments, or from other sources, and means should be devised for keeping up the exercises of the military emigrants, at all events during the period of their receiving pay from Government.

11. The brewing of beer should be encouraged, and all attempts to introduce spirit shops should be crushed at once.

12. Her Majesty's Government will be prepared to send out for temporary employment in the erection of the villages a party of Engineer officers and artificers, if Sir George Grey should be of opinion that such assistance will be needful.

13. Captain Hoffman, of the British German Legion, will accompany you in the capacity of a staff officer, and will be under your orders. His duties will be to render available his powers as an engineer, and should his Excellency Sir G. Grey entertain the proposal of Her Majesty's Government, and desire to detain Captain Hoffman to aid in carrying it out, you may leave him in the colony, otherwise you will bring him home with you.

The foregoing outline of instructions will suffice to introduce you to the subject of your future labours, which the well-known administrative powers of Governor Sir George Grey, aided by your own military and colonial experience, will, I confidently expect, bring to a successful conclusion.

I have, &c.

Major John James Grant. (Signed) PANMURE.

Copy of Report from Major Grant to Lord Panmure.

My Lord, Cape Town, July 14, 1856.

On 31st March last I was charged with a mission from Her Majesty's Government to his Excellency the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, the subject of which was the location of the British German Legion in that Colony.

In the performance of that duty I arrived at Cape Town on the 29th May.

In my letters of 30th May and 1st June, I had the honour to communicate to your Lordship the entire concurrence of the Governor of the Colony in the views of Her Majesty's Government, with regard to the military colonization of the frontier by the German Legion, and at the same time to signify the cordial co-operation of the Colonial Parliament by a vote of a sum of 40,000*l.* in aid of carrying out the details of the measure.

It appeared to me that I should not be in a position to fulfil satisfactorily that portion of my instructions which required me to draw up a report for the information of Her Majesty's Government without visiting the frontier of the Colony, and examining the probable sites for the location of the Legion.

His Excellency Sir George Grey entirely concurred in this opinion, and further decided on proceeding in person to the frontier, thereby affording me the advantage of his local experience and personal explanation of his views on each spot that was visited.

As H.M.S. " Devastation," in which I was instructed to return to England, required a few weeks to refit, my visit to the frontier involved no delay or detention of the vessel.

During an absence from Cape Town of four weeks, I visited, in company with the Governor, the frontier country included between East London at the Buffalo Mouth, King William's Town, Queen's Town, and the Amatola Mountains; returning by Graham's Town and Port Elizabeth.

This tract embraces a large proportion of the sites on which it is proposed to locate the Legion, as will be seen by reference to the map attached to Appendix No. 5.

I have the honour to annex a memorandum, headed " Conditions on which it is proposed to locate the British German Legion in South Africa." Appendix No. 1.

This document, a copy of which has been forwarded to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, embodies the terms upon which his Excellency Sir George Grey and myself are agreed, as being fitted to the circumstances of the country, and to the interests of the military settlers.

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The conditions, submitted for approval or modification by Her Majesty's Government, are classed under the several heads of,—

1°. Military organization, including period of service, pay, rations, and establishment of officers.
2°. Allotments of land.
3°. Cottages.
4°. Advances.
5°. Officers.
6°. Miscellaneous.
7°. Subject to military law.
8°. Pensions.
9°. Chaplains and schoolmasters.

Some observations may be requisite, explanatory of apparent omissions, or of the grounds on which the conditions have been framed:—

Pay.

1°. The pay of the privates of the Legion having been fixed for the first three years at 6*d.* per diem, or one half the full-pay rate, it is presumed that the pay of non-commissioned officers (left blank) will be issued in a similar ratio.

During the last four years it is proposed that the rates of pay for the Legion, when called out for military service, shall be the same as for Her Majesty's troops in the command, instead of the increased rate provided for Pensioners in New Zealand in similar cases. It is believed that the former rate will be a fair and sufficient remuneration, considering the advantageous terms of location conceded to the Legion.

Establishment of Officers.

Although the Legion is to be regarded for the first three years of its location as constantly available for military purposes, its efficiency in this point of view would seem to be sufficiently secured by a reduced establishment of regimental officers, for whom the full pay of their respective ranks would be a fair remuneration, when to their occasional military duties are superadded the details of the location of their men and incidental civil employment.

Ammunition.

Appendix No. 2.

If the Legion should proceed to South Africa armed with the Enfield rifle, as anticipated, a supply of ammunition for that arm must accompany it, there being none available in the Colony.

Cavalry horses and appointments.

Should circumstances arise to demand the employment of the cavalry of the Legion as a mounted body, horses could be provided in the Colony, and thereby obviate the expense of their transport from England; but it is the opinion of his Excellency the Governor that the cavalry should embark completed in every other respect with equipment and horse appointments.

Rations.

It is suggested as highly advantageous, both to the individual and to the public, to substitute as early as practicable for the ration in kind an equivalent in money.

The advantage to the soldier is the encouragement of habits of industry and self-reliance, and a stimulus to personal exertion, in raising the means of subsistence, whilst a money payment increases his capital or disposable means. The gain to the public is the saving of waste in perishable stores, and the

Appendix No. 3.

heavy cost of transport. This subject is treated more fully in Sir George Grey's memorandum annexed. It is anticipated that the resources of the Colony will suffice to meet the demand for rations for the Legion, with the exception of the articles flour and biscuit, of which it is recommended that a supply shall accompany the first detachments of the force.

Allotments.

2°. In the allotment of land no more definite rule as to extent could be adopted than that laid down. It would be neither just nor satisfactory to assign one fixed extent for allotments where the conditions of town or country locations are so different, and where the capabilities of the soil are so varied.

Houses and cottages.

3°. It is recommended that the Government, instead of entering into an engagement to build houses and cottages for the Legion, should make a money payment to each individual for that specific purpose, on a graduated scale fixed in the "Conditions."

The advantages expected to result from this arrangement are,—

1st. The obviating dissatisfaction on the part of the officers and men as to the nature of the accommodation provided for them, which could not be accurately defined, and freedom from any claim for compensation on that score or that of delay in putting the party in possession.

2d. The power or discretion vested in each individual of building (subject to approval) according to his taste or requirements, contributing from his own means, should he think fit, towards erecting a larger or more expensive residence.

3d. The presumption that superior dwellings will be erected, and at a lower cost, by subdivision of labour, and the mutual assistance rendered by the occupants of the different locations, according to the varied produce and capabilities of the latter.

This subject is treated more fully in a memorandum by Sir George Grey attached. Appendix No. 4.

In connexion with this subject, I would state, that it is very desirable that any huts, or manufactured portions of huts,—as doors and window-frames,—which may be left at the disposal of the Government by the termination of the war in the East, should be forwarded to the Cape as early as convenient. The scarcity of *seasoned* building timber, and the dearth of skilled labour in the Colony, would render any such material a valuable aid in the construction of Commissariat stores and other buildings which are of unavoidable necessity at the proposed new locations, and which it devolves upon the Government to erect.

4. A sum of 40,000*l.* has been voted by the Colonial Legislature to assist in carrying out the location of the Legion. This vote is a free grant to the Crown in aid of a specific object. It is recommended that from this fund advances should be made to the military settlers for the purchase of agricultural implements, seeds, milch cows, or other profitable stock. The sums thus advanced on loan to be recovered from the recipients during the second and third years of their location in the Colony, when it is believed that their means and condition will admit of the repayment without inconvenience. Advances.

In selecting posts for the location of the legion the paramount considerations were,— Selection of locations.

1st. Their importance in a military point of view for the defence of the frontier.

2d. Their eligibility as sites for becoming prosperous settlements for the intended colonists.

A strong guarantee for the fulfilment of the first condition is offered in the fact that a large majority of the sites selected are existing military posts chosen for their commanding position and strategical importance in previous Kaffir wars. The remaining posts have been sought with a view to completing the military chain, covering unprotected or strengthening weak points.

The occupation of the line of road recently completed between Queen's Town and the Buffalo Mouth is consistent with both the required conditions, securing an important military line of communication, and the direct route and channel by which the produce of the Orange Free State, as well as the traffic of the Upper Provinces, must pass in transit to the sea.

Where the nature and capabilities of the soil, though varying in different localities, are everywhere most encouraging to industry, few difficulties could arise on this score, in the matter of selection, but care has been taken in every case to secure a supply of water and wood.

In one or two instances, where the latter is scanty, as at the "Thomas River" and "Kaklazeli," measures are concerted for obviating the deficiency on first occupation, by collecting a supply of firewood, and for facilitating and regulating the future supply by providing the station with waggons and teams.

The proposed locations are, for the most part, situated on rivers or streams, which furnish the means of irrigating the garden allotments by water furrow, either already constructed or to be obtained without difficulty. In other localities, as in South Albany and the coast districts, the nature of the soil, the moisture of the atmosphere, and frequent rains ensure abundant crops irrespective of artificial irrigation.

Perhaps there are few regions in the world which can compete with the tract of country included in the Royal reserve of the Amatola, whether as regards soil, climate, or scenery.

This tract is watered by the Keiskamma, the Chumie, the Kabusie, and tributary streams which descend from the numerous Kloofs or ravines which break the face of the Amatola mountains.

Excellent timber for building purposes is procurable in any amount. The soil yields freely and regularly two crops annually; almost every variety of

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fruit and vegetable, European and tropical, is raised in perfection, as attested by the gardens at the military posts. At the Kabusie post, where sawpits have for some time been established by the military, the timber felled in the neighbourhood is sawed for the supply of the surrounding districts. Limestone quarries and kilns are in operation at Need's Camp, about four miles from Fort Pato, and at Middle Drift on the Keiskamma.

The country extending from the Thomas River to the Windvogelberg is better adapted for grazing than for agriculture, a condition which will be considered in determining the extent of the allotments and farms of the military settlers who may be located in that district.

It is to be observed that sheep farming in South Africa has latterly been most successful, and wool is at present the most valuable and rapidly increasing article of export from the Colony. More detailed information regarding each post proposed as a location for the Legion will be found in the report of Lieut.-Colonel Bisset (attached).

Appendix No. 5, with Map.

Three classes of posts are proposed for the location of the Legion:—

1st. Those to be created, which will be on the Queen's Town line, between that town and the Dohne post. These will be occupied by the Legion only.

2d. Those already in existence, which will be at first mixed posts, *i. e.*, occupied jointly by the Legion and troops of the Line; which last will not be wholly withdrawn for some time.

3d. Those from which the military will at once be removed on being relieved by the Legion.

It is intended to occupy these posts in the order in which they are enumerated, unless circumstances should arise to render desirable a deviation from the general principle.

The objects to be attained by this arrangement are, in the first class of posts, the advantage of at once locating an instalment of European population, and a protective force in frontier positions as yet unoccupied, but which it is desirable to establish as early as possible. As none of the garrisons of the adjacent posts will at first be withdrawn, they will furnish support, if necessary, to the new stations in advance. The military settlers, thus established, will daily be acquiring, with a knowledge of the country and its inhabitants, that confidence and local experience which will enable them to render assistance and co-operation to such of the force as will subsequently arrive, and who will be associated at the second class of posts with a portion of the troops now garrisoning them.

It is apprehended that a brief period of this joint occupation of the 2d or principal line of posts will justify a withdrawal from them of the regular troops.

Proposed locations shown on map:—
A. Dohne.
B. Yellow-wood Tree.
C. Kaklazeli.
D. Queen's Town.
E. Tylden.
F. Windvogelberg.
G. Thomas River.
H. Kabusie.
I. Izeli.
K. King William's Town.
L. Fort Murray.
M. „ Pato.
N. „ Grey.
O. East London.
P. Keiskamma.
Q. Fort Cox.
R. „ Chumie.
S. „ Hare.
T. Middle Drift.
U. Fort White.
V. Debe Flats.
X. Tamacha.
Y. Line Drift.
Z. Fort Peddie.
Graham's Town.
Port Elizabeth.
Theopolis.
Waterloo Bay.
Dubie Drift.
Block-houses, churches, and schools.

Lastly, it is confidently expected that by the time the 1st and 2d class of posts, which will form an important barrier against frontier aggression, shall be occupied permanently by the German Legion, neither danger nor inconvenience can arise from withdrawing the regular forces from the 3rd class of posts simultaneously with their relief by the military colonists of the Legion.

The temporary accommodation offered to the Legion at these posts, for the reception of their families, consists chiefly of the wattle-and-daub huts now occupied by the garrisons.

In some few cases the buildings are of superior material. There is everywhere a magazine and guard-room of brick, commissariat store, and stabling. On the sites where new posts are to be created for the location of the Legion, arrangements are already in progress to provide for their reception, such as the formation of a mounted police station, building magazine, and store for arms.

It is to be understood that the occupation of the whole of the posts indicated on the map attached, as locations for the German Legion, is necessarily contingent on the number of military settlers who may reach the Colony, and upon such future modifications as his Excellency the Governor may find it expedient to make.

At present the number of posts suggested is about thirty, and it is proposed to place 250 military settlers at each of the new locations on the Queen's Town line.

Her Majesty's Government deemed it a necessary condition of the location of the British German Legion in South Africa that at each village in which

military settlers were established a block-house, bullet-proof church, and school should be erected, as essential for its security in a military point of view. To meet these requirements, it is to be observed, that at all the sites already occupied as military posts (which constitute the large majority) sufficient defences are already existing to form a rallying point for the inhabitants of the adjacent village.

The permanent guard-room affords a store for the arms and appointments, and the magazine for the ammunition.

Where sufficient accommodation may not be available for a temporary church and school, after providing shelter for the families of the men, buildings for these purposes will be erected; expenditure on these heads being contemplated in the grant of the Colonial Parliament.

The occupation of existing military positions by the Legion involves an important economical consideration which should not be overlooked.

At almost every military post on the frontier the dilapidated state of the temporary barracks is such that a prolonged occupation of the posts by their present garrisons would render a large expenditure on permanent barracks an immediate and inevitable necessity.

The Government is farther pledged to a large outlay for houses for the Legion, but this sum, by being expended at these posts, will obviate the outlay for barracks, whilst the old buildings will for a time be available as shelter for the families of the Legion, and for other incidental purposes.

The hope expressed by Her Majesty's Government that the Local Legislature would render temporary assistance and encouragement to a scheme of military colonization of so much promise, was promptly and cordially responded to by a vote of 40,000*l.* to be expended on the settlement of the Legion in South Africa. Finance.

Nor are these the only resources which it is proposed to devote to the same object, or in repayment of the original outlay incurred by the Imperial Government. It is the intention of his Excellency Sir George Grey, as explained in his letter of 11th July (a copy of which is attached), to appropriate annually during the next five years, a portion of a reserve fund, which will yield during that period an aggregate sum of at least 40,000*l.* Appendix No. 6.

It is further calculated that 100,000*l.* will be realized without difficulty by the sale of lands reserved in the vicinity of each location.

The funds which will thus be contributed from colonial resources during the location and military service of the British German Legion will not fall far short of 200,000*l.*

An outline of the proposed mode of controlling the disbursements, and conducting generally the financial arrangements, both on behalf of the Crown and the Colony, and in the interests of the military settlers, will be found in the letter already quoted. Appendix No. 6.

Captain Hoffman, of the British German Legion, who was directed to accompany me in the capacity of staff officer, has returned with me to England. I beg to annex a letter from Sir George Grey, with whom it was left discretionary to detain this officer in the Colony, if desirable. Appendix No. 7.

Captain Hoffman neglected no opportunity for making himself acquainted with the localities visited, and for gathering information which might be useful on his return with the Legion.

In fulfilling the duty with which I was charged by Her Majesty's Government, I have endeavoured to keep as my guide your Lordship's instructions when entrusting it to me.

The importance of the subject might fairly have claimed more time for investigation than was admitted by the brief period of my stay in the Colony.

This want was compensated, as far as possible, by the assistance and information so freely rendered me on every occasion and on all subjects by his Excellency Sir George Grey, who believing that the interests of the Colony equally with those of the Crown would be advanced by the earliest possible arrival of the Legion in South Africa, afforded me every facility for fulfilling the purpose of my mission, and enabling me to expedite my return to England.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. J. GRANT, Major.

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Appendix to Major Grant's Report.

INDEX TO APPENDIX.

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,, 2. Ammunition.
,, 3. Rations.
,, 4. Houses and cottages.
,, 5. Description of proposed sites for location, with Map.
,, 6. Finance.
,, 7. Captain Hoffman's return.

Appendix No. 1.

Conditions on which it is proposed to locate the British German Legion in South Africa.

1. The Legion will embark in complete military organization, with camp equipage, as for service in the field.

2. Full pay, with the usual deduction for rations, will be issued until the arrival of the several detachments at the locations selected for them.

3. The period during which the Legion will be liable to render military service in the Colony and British Kaffraria is fixed at seven years from the date of location.

4. During the first three years of the above period a commuted rate of pay will be issued on the following scale:—

Serjeants - - - -	
Corporals - - - -	
Drummers and privates -	- 6*d.* per diem.

For the remainder of the term pay will be issued only for such period as the force may be called out for service, and at the same rate per diem as is paid to the troops of the Line serving in South Africa.

5. With a view to keeping up the military efficiency of the force every individual will for the first three years attend for exercise on such days as may be appointed by the Governor for that purpose, and on every Sunday for muster under arms at church parade.

6. During the last four years of the military settler's service in the Colony, he will be required to attend (without pay) for military exercise on such twelve days in each year as may be appointed by the Governor for that purpose, and for muster every Sunday under arms at church parade.

7. For the first year, dating from the location of each party, free rations will be issued, or a commuted allowance equivalent to the full value of the ration.

8. The details of the location of the force must be carried out by their own officers, from amongst whom also a system of local magistracy should be provided; for these purposes, as well as the military command of the force, a reduced proportion of officers would suffice, say at the rate of—

Field officers, 1 per regiment.
Company officers, 1½ per 100 men.
Staff,
Surgeons and assistant, 3 per regiment.

9. The officers accompanying the force in the above proportions will receive for three years the full pay of their respective ranks.

Allotments of Land.

10. In a town already inhabited by a European population, a building lot of the size usual in such town. In a village or new location a building lot and an acre of garden ground will be assigned to each non-commissioned officer and private of the Legion. They will have the same rights regarding depasturing stock on the common lands as the other inhabitants of the place where they may be located.

11. In the towns the men of the Legion will have the advantage of an immediate market for their labour, and of a high rate of wages.

12. The building lot of land will also be worth at once from 50*l.* to 100*l.* They will thus require but a small extent of land to build on. In the villages, on the contrary, they will require to live occasionally on the produce of their own labour, and the land

assigned to them will be of less value. Hence, in some cases the Government may find it necessary to increase such village land beyond the extent above stated of a building lot and one acre of garden ground. The villages will also present to their occupants the advantage of greater common right for the depasturing of stock.

Cottages.

13. So soon as each man is put into possession of his land, the Government will from time to time advance amounts on the following scale, viz. :—

Non-commissioned officers -	- £20
Drummer and private - -	- 18

To be expended under the approval and superintendence of the officers of the force appointed for that purpose, in aid of building a cottage on the land assigned to such non-commissioned officer or private.

14. The cottage and acre of land will be held rent free, provided the military settler conforms to the rules and and regulations laid down for his guidance.

15. The cottages, when built, must be kept in good repair, without any charge to the public.

16. On completion of seven years from the date of location, the land assigned to the non-commissioned officers and privates, with the buildings and improvements thereon, will become the absolute property of the military settler, if he has fulfilled the conditions of his agreement ; and he will then be subjected to no further military duty, other than that exacted from other settlers in defence of the Colony. Until the cottages are built, the Legion will have the temporary shelter of their tents, or of the huts which they may erect from materials at hand. At every location accommodation of a temporary nature is already existing, or will be provided, for the families of the men, and for the safe custody of the arms and stores.

17. If an unmarried military settler dies before he shall have acquired a proprietary right to his land and building, the land and buildings thus lapsing will revert to the Crown. But if the deceased military settler leaves a widow and children, such land and buildings shall become the property of the widow and children, according to the Colonial Law of Inheritance.

Advances.

18. On taking possession of his allotment, an advance of money, not exceeding *5l.*, may be granted to each military settler, under the direction of the officer commanding the regiment, for the purpose of purchasing cooking utensils, seeds, tools, stock, &c. Such advance to be repaid by monthly stoppages from his pay during the second and third years of his location in the Colony.

Officers.

19. Each officer borne on the strength of the Legion who shall accompany it to the Colony, shall, on arrival, receive an allotment of land for building or garden purposes of at least double the extent of that assigned to the non-commissioned officers and privates of the force.

20. In lieu of barrack accommodation or house rent during the three years of full-pay service, a money payment for the specific purpose of building on the land assigned to him will be made to each officer on the following scale :—

Field officers - - - - -	£200
Captains - - - - - -	150
Subalterns - - - - -	100

The above sums will be disbursed by instalments regulated by the progress of the building.

21. Each officer will also be entitled to remission money in the purchase of land to the amount specified below :—

Field officers - - - - -	£300
Captains - - - - - -	200
Subalterns - - - - -	150

These sums may be invested in the purchase of land, whether in town or country allotments, within limits which will be furnished as soon as the necessary surveys can be made.

22. Any officer who shall at the expiration of the first three years of his service, or prior to that date, signify his intention not to prolong his service beyond the first period of three years, shall forfeit his house and land, with any improvements thereon, all of which will revert to the Crown.

23. Every officer who may continue to serve for the remaining four years of his engagement shall be liable to the same conditions as to service and pay as already provided for the non-commissioned officers and privates of the force ; in consideration of which, every such officer shall, at the expiration of the full term of seven years, be entitled to a

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

free grant, as his absolute property, of the house and building lot, and also of such land as he may have purchased with his remission money.

24. In the event of Her Majesty's Government being pleased to grant a free passage to the Colony to any eligible officers who shall have ceased to be borne on the strength of the British German Legion for pay, by reason of reduction, any such officer shall be entitled to the same privileges of remission money in the purchase of land as any officer of the force in his corresponding rank.

25. The regulations provided for the disposal of land and buildings lapsing by the death of non-commissioned officers and privates of the Legion shall be applicable to the grants of deceased officers.

Miscellaneous.

26. The renewal of the clothing of the Legion, the repair of arms and appointments, and the supply of regimental necessaries are reserved for the consideration of the Imperial Government, as also provision for funeral expenses of a member of the force who may die during the term of his military service.

Subject to Military Law.

27. Every military settler during his seven years of military service is liable to the provisions of the Mutiny Act and Articles of War. For minor offences fines may be inflicted by order of the Governor. Any man may be expelled the force by order of the Governor, and such expulsion will involve the deprivation of cottage and land.

28. During the first three years of military service in the Colony, the Legion will be under the senior officer of Her Majesty's troops in the Colony, in the same manner as soldiers of the regular army.

29. During the last four years of their military service, they will, when called out under arms, be in like manner under the senior officer of Her Majesty's troops in the Colony.

Pensions.

30. Any military settler wounded or disabled in defence of the Colony will be granted the allowance for wounds received in action which may be sanctioned by the regulations in force in the Colony for the time being.

Chaplains and Schoolmasters.

31. In the event of chaplains accompanying the Legion from England, it does not seem necessary that their number should exceed one per 1,000 men, or in all.

32. The relative position of the posts and their distance from each other will probably admit of each chaplain serving one or more of the locations adjacent to that at which he may reside. To every chaplain attached to the Legion a salary of 100*l.* per annum will be assigned during the seven years of his service, together with a plot of building ground, on which a house will be erected at the cost of Government of a value equivalent to the sum allowed to a captain for that purpose. Wherever practicable a garden allotment will be added. The house and land at the expiration of seven years will revert to the Crown for the use and benefit of the actual incumbent.

33. Whenever Government schools exist at or near a station, the Legion will enjoy for their families the same advantages as the rest of the community.

34. At new locations a school-room will be erected by the Government.

35. It is probable that in every such case the Legion will be able to furnish from its own body a competent teacher, to whom a moderate annual salary will be paid.

36. It is to be understood that at the expiration of the full period of seven years both chaplains and schoolmasters will fall into precisely the same position as may then be held by other clergymen and schoolmasters in the Colony.

Appendix No. 2.

Despatch* from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere.

Anglo-German Legion.

Sir, Cape Town, 10th July 1856.

Military, No. 4.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that Lieutenant-General Sir James Jackson has informed me that there is but a very trifling quantity of ammunition for the Enfield rifle left on hand in this colony, and as the Anglo-German Legion are at least in part armed with this weapon, I trust that care will be taken that the Legion brings out an ample supply of ammunition, not only for the Enfield rifle, but also for the Minié rifle, if any of the regiments are armed with that rifle, as the supply of ammunition already applied for from England has only reference to the force now serving in this command, and would not suffice for the Legion.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. Grey.

* This Despatch will also be found printed at page 43 of this collection.

Appendix No. 3.

RATIONS.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

HER Majesty's Government are to undertake to supply the Legion for the first year after their landing with rations in kind or an equivalent in money.

2. It is proposed as soon as possible to change the ration into a money payment.

3. As the Legion are to be transformed from a military force into military settlers, it appears desirable as early as possible to encourage the growth of trade amongst them, and to induce each individual at once to take up the avocation for which he is suited. Those who are qualified to keep shops and stores, and who are men of good character, will experience no difficulty in being started in business by merchants already in the Colony, and can thus supply the wants of their comrades.

4. Moreover, a great public and private saving will be effected by giving a money payment in lieu of rations.

5. A public saving, inasmuch as the cost of transport, of the preservation and issue of stores, and of keeping complicated ration accounts, will be saved.

6. A private saving, inasmuch as the non-commissioned officers and men will have advances made them to enable them to purchase a cow, pigs, poultry, seeds, &c. &c.; they will thus soon be independent at least of a considerable part of their ration, which if issued to them in kind would be wasted, whilst the sum paid in money will be saved or employed in purchasing other articles which they require.

7. In populous towns, such as Graham's Town, Port Elizabeth, King William's Town, and perhaps Queen's Town, the Legion can at once purchase in the stores as well as in England the articles which they require.

8. For all these reasons I think that the Government should, as soon as it can do so without injury to the Legion, commute the allowance of rations into a money payment. Some care and consideration will necessarily have to be bestowed in determining the precise dates at which this can be done at each post where a detachment of the legion is stationed, as the circumstances of the several posts differ materially from each other.

9. As the duty of supplying the Legion for some time with rations will devolve upon the Commissariat department, it is necessary to consider at what points it will have to supply rations.

10. The main body of the Legion will be settled in the immediate vicinity of existing posts, or within the line of country now occupied by the troops. Within these limits there will be no difficulty in supplying the Legion with rations, to do this requires merely an extension of the means now in operation, and the earliest practicable information shall be given of the number of persons who will be collected at each point, and the resources of the Colony will amply suffice to meet the increased demand, with the exception perhaps of the single article of bread stuffs. I think that the Commissariat should without delay make arrangements for increasing the supply of biscuit and flour now in the Colony.

11. A new line of posts beyond our present limits will, however, be taken up by the Legion, about 75 miles in length, extending from the Kabousie to Queen's Town, along this line there will be four new posts, viz.: one at the Thomas River of about 250 men, one at the Windvogel Berg Neck of 250 men, one at Tylden on the Black Kei of 250 men, and another at Queen's Town of 250 men.

12. The Commissariat will probably, therefore, be required to provide for some months rations for 1,000 men and their families along this line. An excellent road exists along its entire length, which leads from the fertile districts of Albany and British Kaffraria direct to the most fertile parts of Albert and the Free State. If, therefore, the necessary steps are taken in time no difficulty will be experienced in rationing the detachments of the Legion which will be stationed along this line.

13. So soon as the date of the arrival of the Legion is made known to me, the Commissariat shall be informed of the dates at which the successive posts will be taken up, and from which the issue of rations will commence, in order that time may be afforded to make the necessary preparations.

DESPATCH* from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE.

ANGLO-GERMAN LEGION.

SIR, Cape Town, 11th July 1856.

I HAVE the honour to request that the attention of the Secretary for War should be called to the necessity of sending out an ample supply of flour and biscuit with the German Legion, as otherwise these articles will rise to a very high price in this Colony on the arrival of the Legion, if indeed a sufficient supply could then be obtained to meet the wants of the troops, which appears very doubtful. Military, No. 5.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

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* This Despatch will also be found printed at page 44 of this collection.

Appendix No. 4.

Houses and Cottages.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

If the Government enters into any arrangements by which it is obliged to provide houses for the officers and men, misunderstandings will arise, and innumerable complaints will be made of breach of contract. It will be alleged that the house or cottage is not so good or commodious as it was understood that it would be, that the officer or soldier was not placed in possession of it until long after the time agreed upon, and on these and other similar grounds compensation in some form will be claimed.

The future owner of the house or cottage expecting also to receive it free of all charge to himself, will expend no labour of his own upon it, but will stand idly by, a mere spectator, whilst others erect it, and, whatever may be his savings from the high rate of wages he may receive, he will lay none of them out upon the house or cottage, to adapt it to his taste and wishes, until he has been put in possession of it, and has ascertained how much he can obtain from the Government.

As far, therefore, as the interests of the force are concerned, such a system would be likely to create discontent, indolence, and apathy.

The Government will also find it extremely difficult to put up in any reasonable time 8,000 cottages in isolated villages, the extreme ones of which would lie at a great distance from one another.

The ultimate cost of such a proceeding would also be enormous, and no estimate of it could be made beforehand, for the price of materials, of skilled labour, and of transport would, under such a system, rise to an unprecedented height. Labour would also be drawn from other useful avocations, and the general welfare and progress of the country would be interfered with. In New Zealand we paid 80*l.* each for cottages for the pensioners, which did not please them as well as cottages which they built themselves, only 15*l.* towards the cost of such cottages being allowed by the Government.

I would, therefore, recommend that Government should give the following allowances to the Anglo-German Legion to aid in the erection of their cottages :—

Field officers - - - -	£200
Captains - - - - -	150
Subalterns - - - -	100
Non-commissioned officers - - -	20
Privates - - - - -	18

The allowance to be paid to the officers in sums proportionate to the cost of the part of the house from time to time erected on their own land,—two-thirds of the amount expended being paid to them, until the whole is exhausted.

The allowance given to the non-commissioned officers and privates to be expended under the superintendence and approval of their officers in building cottages on their own plots of land.

Under this system every one will build his own house according to his own taste, he will expend portions of his own means upon it, he will labour at its erection himself. Immediate employment will be afforded to all, comrades will engage comrades, on conditions mutually agreed on, to work at each other's houses. Those who are settled in forest districts will fell and saw timber for those who live on the plains, others will be engaged as carriers, a trade will from the first spring up between the different villages, a stimulus will be given to industry, those who, under the other system, would have remained indolent and poor, will become energetic and well-to-do in the world. The greater part of the money paid for building the cottages will pass into the hands of the Anglo-German Legion, and will be permanently invested in the country. The labour already in the Colony will not be withdrawn from the pursuits in which it is now profitably engaged, and no claim for compensation can be made against the Government upon the ground of alleged breach of contract.

Appendix No. 5.

Memorandum by Lieutenant-Colonel Bisset, Assistant Adjutant-General, on Sites proposed by Sir George Grey as a Settlement for the German Legion.

British Kaffraria, King William's Town,
30th June 1855.

A.
Duhnie Post: present military strength, 3 officers, 122 men, 16 horses.

This station may be called the advance guard; is situated in the Crown reserve, about two miles in rear of the boundary line of the Gaika location, and twelve miles in advance of the Kabousie post and the main line of occupation. This site has many advantages from the command of water for irrigation purposes, which may be carried to any extent. About 300 acres of land lies now under the watercourse lately made by order of the Governor, and is at once available; the soil is capable of producing wheat, vines, and all sorts of fruit, vegetables, &c., &c., and flax. There is a German mission station on the post. Abundance of timber close at hand.

A flanking post to the Duhnie, situated in the Crown reserve south of the above post, and on the new road from King William's Town to the Duhnie; eleven miles from King William's Town, ten from the Duhnie, about three miles in rear of the Gaika boundary line, and seven in advance of the Iseli; has the Peelton mission station about four miles on its right flank; the site is on the sources of the Yellow-wood stream, with good water, and a fertile soil capable of producing anything, and has quantities of good timber of all sorts in the immediate neighbourhood.

B. Yellow-wood Tree Station: proposed site; no troops.

A flanking post nine miles north of the Duhnie, situated on the boundary line and road leading from the Dubnie to the Windvogelberg, in an open country with any extent of land available, chiefly adapted for grazing purposes, but would produce wheat, grain, and fruits of all sorts; cold in winter, but a most splendid climate in summer; water good and abundant for irrigation and mill purposes; a few miles distant from wood; is within three miles of a German mission station. Flax might be grown here to any extent. This post will be about ten miles in advance of the post on the Thomas River and the general line of occupation.

C. Kaklazeli Station: proposed site; no troops.

This position is what I call the most northern of the general line of occupation, as shown in the accompanying plan; it holds out very great advantages, being a fast rising town in the middle of a rich farming district, and possesses vast mercantile resources from its position in regard to the Orange River country; it is situated in North Victoria in the Colony, eighty miles from King William's Town, and 120 from the port of East London. The farmers of the district hold their farms on military tenure, and are able and good defenders of the country. The site for the town was fixed on three years ago, and the assessed landed property now exceeds 30,000*l.* Erven, allotted at from 5*l.* to 7*l.* 10*s.* each, are now worth from 60*l.* to 150*l.* A splendid watercourse has been led out from the river, and much valuable land is available to the Government for locating emigrants, extending the town, &c. The land is rich and most productive, and will abundantly yield every description of grain, wine, fruit. The town has an English and Dutch Reformed church. A road is being opened up direct to the Orange River territory, which will bring the extensive trade from the interior through this town, and along the direct chain of posts to King William's Town and the port of East London.

D. Queen's Town Station: no troops.

A reserved grant in North Victoria, retained for a village, is the first of the chain of positions extending from Queen's Town to the sea, is situated on the direct road, and eighteen miles from Queen's Town, and is surrounded by a farming population; this site commands the advantages of abundance of water, with a rich soil capable of producing corn, wine, fruit, &c., to any extent. It is about five miles from the border of the Colony, and has a police station directly in its front; the traffic to and from the interior will pass directly through this settlement.

E. Tylden or Kei Drift Station: proposed site; no troops.

Situated in North Victoria, and also on the direct road from Queen's Town, twelve miles south of Tylden, and possessing the same advantages, but in the proximity there are extensive grazing lands available; there is a strong stream of water capable of irrigating a large tract of land, which would be fertile and productive with the application of a little manure, which, from its high and rather cold position, it requires. There is a rich farming population around two-thirds of the site; to the south lie the extensive plains of the Bontebok Flaats; near this settlement roads diverge to Whittlesea, a Moravian mission station, to the Duhnie, to Gaikas Kop, and the Kat River settlement, &c.; the whole traffic with the north country will pass through this location.

F. Windvogelberg Station: proposed site; no troops.

This site is about ten miles south of the Windvogelberg, and a little off the direct road to the Kabousie; it is situated on a branch of the Thomas River, in an extensive and open, but undulating country; it commands great water resources, available either for irrigating purposes or for a mill; the climate is rather cold in winter, and the soil from excessive moisture is a little poor, and would require manure. There is also a scarcity of wood fuel. Cultivating to any extent could be carried on here, and there are vast unoccupied lands for grazing purposes. The site is about ten miles in rear of the Kaklazeli station, and nine miles from the Kambousie post, where there is abundance of wood, timber, &c. This settlement, by creating a timber depôt, would command the whole important timber trade into the interior, being the nearest station, without descending the mountain pass to the immense timber forests of the Amatola Crown reserve; the diverging road to the Duhnie passes a few miles on the flank of this station; a fine flax country; transport would be required at this, first to carry fuel, timber, &c.

G. Thomas River Station: proposed site; no troops.

Situated nine miles from the Thomas River station, and within the Amatola reserve. The post is on a neck of land dividing the sources of the Kieskamma and Kabousie Rivers, it is twelve miles in rear of the Duhnie, and has immense timber forests all round the position; between the Kabousie and the Duhnie the features of the country is open, with gentle slopes, and has forest wood along the Kabousie Mountain on the left, open grass ridges on the right, with strong streams flowing through every valley. This country is capable of containing a dense population from its qualities for agricultural purposes. The timber depôt at the Thomas River would be fed from this post, being the one immediately over the mountain range close to the forest itself.

H. Kabousie Post: military strength, 2 officers, 107 men, 6 horses

Situated sixteen miles from the Kabousie, eight from King William's Town, and at the junction of the Iseli and Buffalo Rivers; the country around this position is most splendid, and of a fertile nature, capable of producing every variety of grain, fruit, &c., and is about four miles from the Buffalo timber forests. It is in the Crown reserve, and seven miles

I. Iseli Post: military strength, 1 officer, 78 men, 6 horses.

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in rear of the Yellow-wood Tree station. Some Fingoes are located near this post, but there are unoccupied lands extending up the fertile valleys of the Iseli, and along under the Buffalo Mountains in the direction of the Perie mission station. The whole of this country is suitable either for pasture land or agricultural.

K. King William's Town: military strength, 32 officers, 948 men, 228 horses. (141 houses). See Return attached.

The military and civil head quarters of the district, established in 1848, contains a civilian population of 198 men, 126 women, 292 children, with a fixed landed property valued at 69,925*l.* (this valuation is exclusive of military buildings and building allotments in the Ordnance reserve), is situated on the Buffalo River, on the border of the Crown reserve, at an angle of about south east from the Keiskamma Hoek, which I assume to be the centre of the reserve. It is a rapidly increasing capital, and should East London become a safe port (as is anticipated by the works in course of progress by the civil engineer, Mr. Pilkington), this town will rise to great importance, both as a mercantile town and as a centre for troops to operate from; the country around is good and adapted for agricultural purposes, and also suitable for grazing; the available army should be at this station as the centre of British Kaffraria. A resident settlement of Anglo-Germans should also be established to garrison and defend the town, so that the whole of the troops might the more readily take the field in case of necessity. There is abundance of superior country to the north and west in the Crown reserve available for emigrants.

L. Fort Murray: military strength, 3 officers, 88 men, 8 horses.

The first post in the Kaffir locations on the road to East London, eight miles from King William's Town, and the residence of Colonel Maclean, the Chief Commissioner; the Government possess only a rayon of two miles round this post, or from 7,000 or 8,000 acres of land. Extensive cultivation is carried on here and the crops are splendid; the Buffalo River runs through the station, and might be turned to account. At this station could be raised grain of all sorts, vegetables, &c. for King William's Town market, and flax for export.

M. Fort Pato: military strength, 2 officers, 81 men, 12 horses.

The second post on the Buffalo line, is situated on the Gulu ridge about three miles from the Buffalo River, in the midst of "Pato's" location, with a reserved rayon of two miles round the post. Water not sufficient for irrigation, but abundant for a settlement. Soil good for agriculture, and, from the proximity to the sea air, will produce crops even in dry seasons. Large timber and waggon wood abundant in the neighbourhood,—the latter would become a paying article of trade to Cape Town,—is on the present line of road to East London, and is sixteen miles from Fort Murray; there are extensive limestone quarries near this post worked by the Royal Engineer Department.

N. Fort Grey: military strength, 2 officers, 68 men, 6 horses.

This post, also on the road to East London, eight miles from Fort Pato, and about three to the west of the Buffalo River, is situated in the Kaffir locations, and has the same rayon of two miles round the post; the soil is well adapted for agricultural purposes. Water not over abundant in very dry seasons, and a little "brackish," yet always sufficient for a settlement. All this country is adapted for raising grain, flax, &c. There is a forest of hard wood close to the post and part within the rayon which can be turned to good account, the wood is being much sought after for shipbuilding purposes, and will become an article of export and trade.

O. East London: military strength, 3 officers, 66 men, 6 horses.

The port for British Kaffraria, situated at the mouth of the Buffalo River, eight miles from Fort Grey, will become a place of much importance when the improvements in course of construction are carried out; the soil will produce but not abundantly, being sandy, it requires manure; land at this place will become very valuable; there is the same rayon only from the sea round the post reserved. Vessels of 120 tons burden even now enter the river and discharge cargo on the jetty,—it is an open roadstead outside with good anchorage. East London will become a great mercantile place from being the direct and nearest port for the produce of not only Kaffraria and the new settlements, but also the interior north of the Orange River. The water is "brackish," but fresh water may be carried in pipes from the ebb and flow drift of the Buffalo, a distance of about 2½ miles. Mr. Pilkington (civil engineer) reports very favourably of the capabilities of East London for the purposes of a port and harbour,—from the river mouth a large lake extends over two miles inland, very deep, and some hundreds of yards wide, which will become available for shipping.

P. Keiskamma Hoek: military strength, 15 officers, 494 men, 49 horses.

I now come to the Keiskamma Hoek, which, from advantages of locality, is suitable for the head-quarters and main support to the chain of advance positions. It is situated in the middle of the Amatola country and Crown reserve, and nine miles in rear of the Kabousie Post. From its position it can support the main line of settlements at any point north of King William's Town. As to soil and capabilities, it may be called and made the garden of the country. From this centre radiate valleys in all directions, with hill slopes and rich loam bottoms. Settlements can be formed from the Keiskamma Hoek in all these valleys,—such as Gulu Valley, Lenga Valley, Wolf Valley, Quilli Quilli Valley, &c., &c. This country is capable of holding some thousands of emigrants. There are a few Fingoe settlements in the neighbourhood. The country around it is mountainous and hilly, with slopes and valleys, and with streams of water running from all directions. The soil is the very best in the Colony, and will produce wheat, wine, and every variety of produce. A branch road to Queen's Town turns out at the Kabousie and runs through the Hoek to Graham's Town, and much traffic goes by this route. There is also a road to King William's Town, twenty-five miles distant, which runs through Baillie's Grave Post, nine miles from the Hoek; at this spot a settlement might also be made. There is abundance of timber in the valleys and on the face of all the mountains. The Gulu and

the Keiskamma streams join opposite the post, and the river runs round the position in the shape of a horseshoe. A splendid watercourse has been constructed, and much land is available at once. A military village was commenced here by Sir George Cathcart, and there are some few good houses.

Q. Fort Cox: military strength, 2 officers, 103 men, 8 horses.

From the Keiskamma Hoek, going to Fort Cox, you wind through the Boamah Pass and Lenga Valley, passing by Burn's Hill mission station; this post is twelve miles from Keiskamma Hoek. It is situated in the Crown reserve, on a high but small plateau of land in a bend of the Keiskamma River opposite the Amatola Gorge and Valley; the soil about is a little dry, but with water irrigation is more productive. The post itself is about 400 yards from the river on each side. There are some splendid valleys in the vicinity towards the Sabandoda Mountains, and the pasturage is good and in abundance. Burn's Hill mission station is about two miles distant. Fingoes have been located in the Amatola Basin and Umquaggi Valley; they raise large quantities of millet by merely scratching the surface of the earth and sowing the seed; the whole of the hill sides might be converted into vineyards; timber forests are abundant in the neighhourhood. From Fort Cox, roads lead to Fort White, 9 miles; Middle Drift, 7 miles; Chumie, 12 miles; and Fort Hare, 14 miles distant.

R. Chumie Post: military strength, 2 officers, 64 men, 8 horses.

This station is situate in the rich valley of the Chumie, and in rear but opposite the Amatola Basin; it is about four miles in advance of the Colony, and in the Crown reserve. From this post a road might be constructed to pass over the north side of the Amatola Mountains and communicate with the Windvogelberg and Thomas River Stations. This station is supported by a farming population, holding their land on military tenure, and are occupying the left bank of the Chumie River. There are some Fingoe settlement about this station, but abundance of land still available for emigrants; the soil is rich, producing every description of grain, fruit, and vegetables. This post and Fort Cox I would call positions of occupation.

S. Fort Hare: military strength, 14 officers, 448 men, 33 horses.

Fort Hare is the last post in the Crown reserve towards the Colony, which it is divided from only by the Chumie River, on the opposite side of which lies the town of "Alice." A very flourishing sister town to "Alice" will arise at this position. There is a rich bottom of land below the post capable of being brought under water irrigation; the soil is most productive, and a ready market at hand; the pasture land is good for all kinds of stock. The Colonial side of the river is in the occupation of a farming population, who hold their grants on tenure of military service.

T. Middle Drift Post: military strength, 3 officers, 78 men, 8 horses.

The road leading from Fort Hare to Middle Drift divides the Kaffir location allotted to "Kama's" people from the Crown reserve; on the right are Kaffirs, on the left the reserve; six miles from Fort Hare the road crosses the Yellow-wood stream and fertile Valley, a good site for a branch station; six miles further on lies Middle Drift on the Keiskamma River; and seven miles below Fort Cox. This position affords rich pasture lands, but in dry seasons water-leading becomes necessary for agricultural purposes, except on the sides of the neighbouring hills; a strong river runs through this site, but great expense would be incurred to lead out the water.

U. Fort White: military strength, 1 officer, 28 men, 9 horses.

Fort White is on the road to King William's Town from Middle Drift and Fort Hare, and on the border of the Crown reserve six miles from Middle Drift, and situated on an open flat south of the Tab'andodo Mountain. Abundance of rich land available for grazing and agricultural purposes, and will produce grain and vegetables, &c. without irrigation; the water is "brackish." Several Colonial farmers are living here under the protection of the post, carrying on agricultural pursuits.

V. Site of new Post on Debe Flats: military strength, 4 officers, 181 men.

This station is seven miles from Fort White and three from Baillie's Grave Post on the source of a branch of the Buffalo River, and which rises at the Tab'andodo, three miles north of the direct road from Fort White to King William's Town, which direct road is the boundary of the Crown reserve; on the right are "Toise's" Kaffirs. This site is a good position for a post, but for a settlement it should be lower down the stream, where better soil is abundant, and extends along under the Perie forests till it joins the Iseli out-station. Timber abounds in this neighbourhood, and the soil is most productive.

W. Baillie's Grave Post: military strength, 20 men, 8 horses.

This post is over a rising ground in the direction of the Keiskamma Hoek, and about three miles from the last station. Would also form a good site for a settlement; the soil possesses all the advantages described in the Keiskamma Hoek settlement.

X. Tamacha Post: 18 officers, 452 men, 15 horses.

Tamacha Post is situated in "Siwani's Location," thirteen miles from King William's Town, on the Peddie Road, with only a reserved rayon of two miles round the post. The soil is productive and will raise grain and vegetables; flax might be grown to any extent; there is good timber in the kloofs close at hand.

Y. Line Drift Post.

Line Drift is the first station within the Colony, and is eight miles distant from the Tamacha on the Graham's Town Road, and is situated in a rich valley on the right bank of the Keiskamma River. There is only a small Government reserve of land at this station. The country about is well suited for all kinds of stock, and by leading out the Keiskamma River, a great deal of land might be brought under cultivation, and would yield beyond conception from its richness. In dry seasons water is necessary at this place for agriculture.

Z. Fort Peddie.

Fort Peddie is twelve miles from Line Drift, on the road from King William's Town to Graham's Town. There is a village at this station, which is situated in South Victoria, in the Colony. It has some shops and a hotel, and a well-built Wesleyan chapel. The soil will raise grain and vegetables in abundance, and is well suited for grazing stock.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

There is a large Government reserve attached to the Peddie grounds, and out-stations might be made from this site.

New Station: somewhere opposite Doubie Drift on the Keiskamma: proposed site.

This station is necessary to support Fort Pato in the Kaffir location, which lies east of the Keiskamma River. This station would be situated in the Colony on the right bank of the Keiskamma River, where there is much valuable Government land. It forms one of the reserve line of posts, extending from Line Drift to the Keiskamma mouth, in support of the Buffalo line of posts, and in rear of the Kaffirs who occupy the country between the Buffalo and Keiskamma Rivers. The country about is undulating, studded with mimosa and wooded kloofs, but well suited for farming pursuits of all sorts.

Tooi Station.

The Tooi station is a large Government reserve on the right bank of the Keiskamma River, and about opposite the ebb and flow drift. The soil is suited for agriculture of all sorts, with good and extensive grazing land. It was a border Fingoe police station before that force was disbanded—country suited for the cultivation of flax.

Keiskamma River Mouth: proposed site.

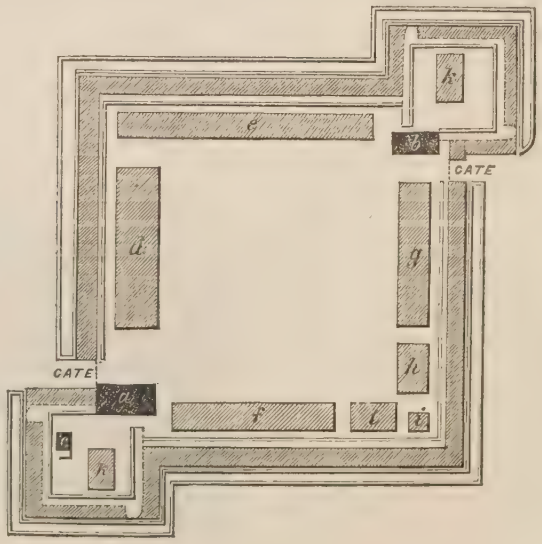
At the Keiskamma mouth there is a very large Government reserve retained in case of a post being founded there. The whole of the land is suited for agriculture and cattle pasturage. In rear of this line of stations, from Line Drift down to the sea, the country has been filled up by a farming population, holding their grants subject to a quit-rent, and in tenure of military service. There is abundance of land for out-stations and farming purposes all up the Keiskamma River, between the stations, which, when occupied, will form a complete barrier between Kaffirland and the lower dirtricts of the Colony.

Waterloo Bay and Newcastle.

At Waterloo Bay there is a large Crown reserve of some thousands of acres, situated in South Victoria, and well suited as a station of reserve to support the line of posts on the Keiskamma River. This station is at the mouth of the Fish River, 25 miles from Peddie, and 25 miles from the Keiskamma River. The country about it populated by farmers holding their land on quit-rent, and in tenure of military service. There is some considerable Government land yet available for emigrants in the district. This station would become a place of considerable importance as the Colony progresses and is opened out. It embraces Waterloo Bay on the coast, which will eventually be made a great mercantile port. During the war of 1846–7, all the stores and supplies for the army were landed at this bay. As this place prospers, the outlay of some capital to divert the mouth of the Fish River directly into Waterloo Bay, instead of its present rocky channel, will make this port one of the best in the country. A deep cutting of about 200 yards only is necessary, with the blasting of some rocks on the diverging point of the proposed cutting. There is a punt at the mouth of this river for crossing waggons, &c. On the west bank there is also a small Government reserve. This reserve forms the extremity of Lower Albany.

(Signed) JOHN J. BISSET, Lieut.-Col.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

King William's Town,
30th June 1856.



REFERENCES.

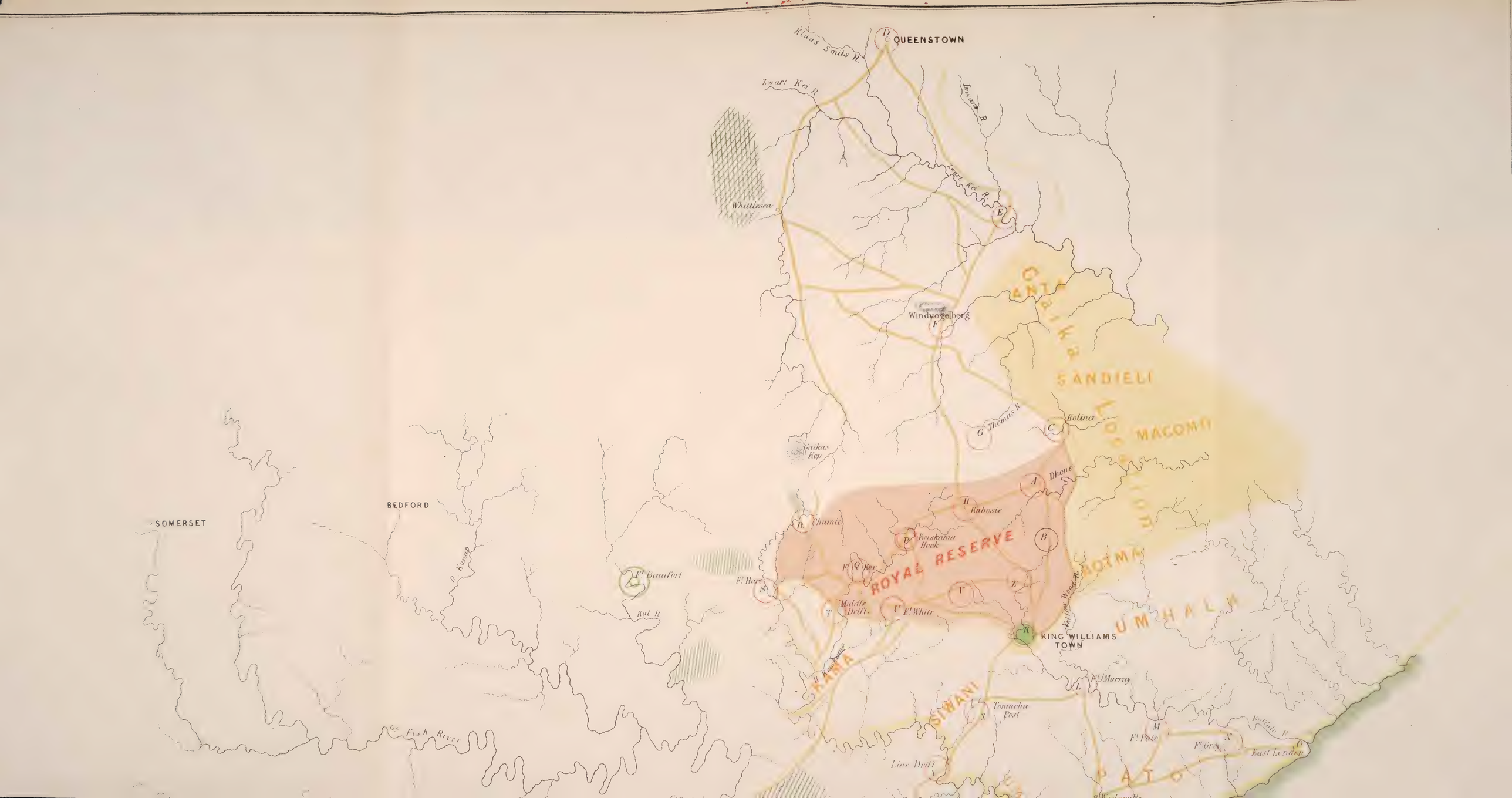
a. Stone Guard-house.
b. Do. Cook-house.
c. Do. Powder Magazine.
h. Wattle and daub Officers' Stables.
i. Hospital Privy do.
k. Do. Picket-house.

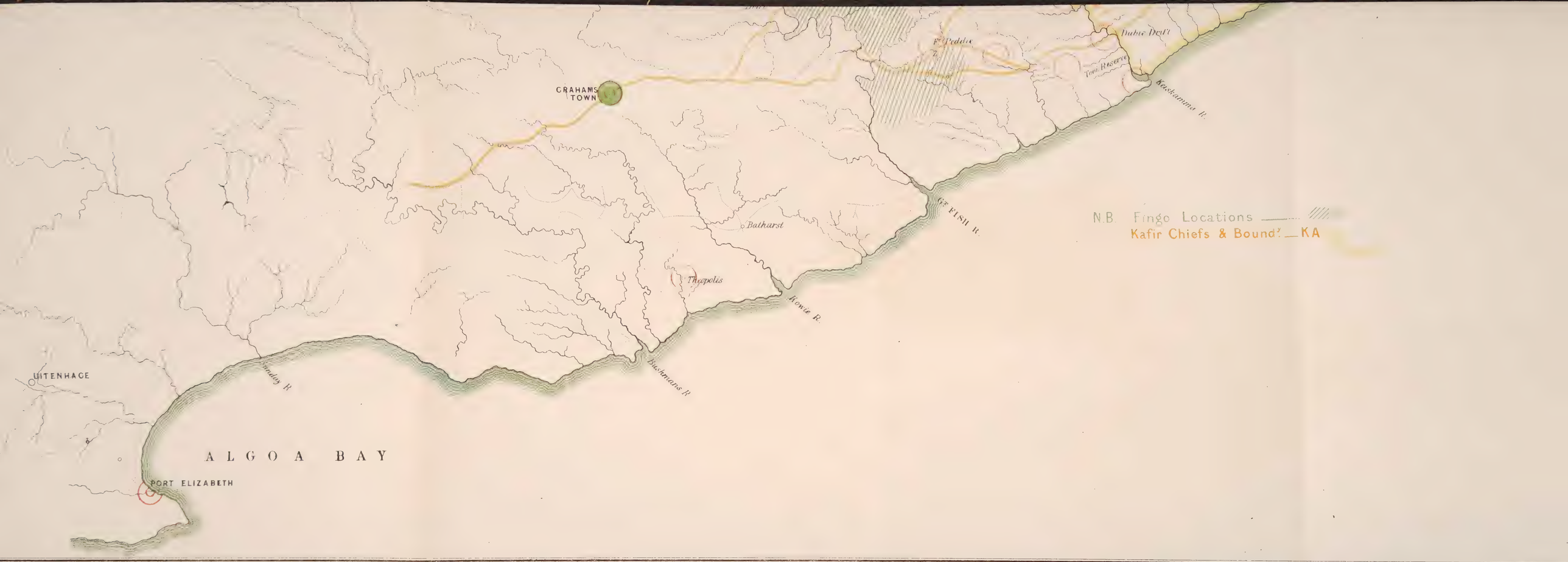
REFERENCES.

d. Wattle and daub Huts, Officers' Quarters.
e. Do. Infantry Soldiers'.
f. Cavalry do. and Troop Stables.
g. Do. Commissariat and Hospital.
l. Do. Forage Store.

1. THE above is a plan of the Kabousie Post, and shows the general trace of the temporary posts in Kaffraria.

2. They consist of a square redoubt, enclosed by an earthen parapet about eight feet high and a ditch from four to five feet deep. The faces of the redoubt are flanked by two small square bastions at opposite corners, formed of palisades, ball proof, and loop-holed


QUEENSTOWN
Klaas Smits R
Zwart Kei R
Indwana R
Whittlesea
Windvogelberg
Gaikas Kop
G Thomas R
Kolinca
Dhone
Kabosie
Chumie
Keiskama Hoek
Ft Hare
Ft White
Middle Drift
Kat R
Ft Beaufort
Buffalo R
KING WILLIAMS TOWN
Ft Murray
Tomacha Post
Line Drift
Ft Pato
Ft Grey
East London
Fish River
SOMERSET
BEDFORD
GALEKA
GCALEKA
SANDILI
TEMBU
MACOMO
ROYAL RESERVE
KOMGA
UMHALA
KAMA
SIWANI
PATO


GRAHAMS TOWN
Fort Peddie
Dubie Drift
Fort Reserve
Keiskamma R.
Bathurst
Gt FISH R.
Thopolis
Howie R.
Bushmans R.
Sunday R.
UITENHAGE
ALGOA BAY
PORT ELIZABETH
N.B. Fingo Locations
Kafir Chiefs & Bound.s KA

for musquetry. The salients of these bastions are again flanked by small tambours palisaded. Each bastion, with the permanent stone building at its gorge, forms a strong keep. One bastion has a permanent stone guard-house, with flat roof and parapet for musquetry fire at its gorge, and contains a powder magazine generally holding about from thirty-two to sixty gun barrels of powder. The other bastion has a stone cook-house, with asphalt roof at its gorge, and contains the cattle kraal in war time, and a picket-house.

3. The officers and soldiers' quarter, as well as all the other buildings, are wattle and daub generally, with few exceptions.

4. The posts, Middle Drift, Chumie, have stone or brick officers' quarters. The posts are generally constructed for a war garrison of 100 men, two officers—ninety men infantry and ten cavalry; with commissariat supplies for three months, reserve ammunition, &c.

5. The Duhnie, Kabousie, Izeli, Middle Drift, Chumie, Baillie's Grave are of this trace and construction.

6. The Keiskamma Hoek post consists of a number of detached buildings arranged in a rectangular form without any enceinte or enclosure. In the centre is a stone tower with flat roof, two stories high, intended as a keep,—it contains powder magazine for sixty quarter barrels. Two of the faces are flanked by permanent buildings, one a guard-house, the other a lunette with barbette battery for a field-gun. This post will contain twenty officers and 600 men, infantry, and two officers and forty-seven cavalry, with hospital commissariat stores for ten weeks.

The buildings are temporary, some brick thatched roof, others stone and wattle and daub.

7. The Tamacha post is built on the same principle, having a stone tower surrounded by temporary buildings, some brick thatched, others wattle and daub thatched roofs. There is no enceinte, but the faces are flanked by brick buildings, thatched and loop-holed. The Tamacha post contains a war garrison of seven officers, 115 men, infantry, one officer, thirty men, cavalry, with stabling, &c. Commissariat stores for seven weeks, Powder magazine sixty quarter barrels.

8. Forts Cox, Glamorgan, and Murray are permanent stone posts, with stone wall enceinte loop-holed. Fort Glamorgan has zinc roof, the others thatched. Forts Glamorgan and Murray hold three officers, 100 men, infantry.

9. King William's Town.—The defences of King William's Town consist of detached guard-house on the river front, built of stone and loop-holed, with painted canvass roofs to protect the drift, &c. on the west side, on the east side there is an advanced redoubt of stone with defensible guard-room and barbette battery for a heavy gun.

10. The new Cape Corps barracks flanks this redoubt, and both flank the depôt powder magazine, which is placed in echellon with them. Powder magazine contains 1,600 quarter barrels, with artillery ammunition. There is also a square redoubt, called Fort Hill, whose defences are very slight, consisting of a low parapet and ditch, with flanking bastions for three field-guns in the centre of the faces. The cantonment consists of wattle and daub huts for 400 men. There is a stone hospital and provost prison.

11. The commissariat depôt consists of a number of temporary buildings in Fort Hill, which contain, with stone hired store-rooms, supplies for thirteen weeks.

12. Fort Hare is a rectangular fieldwork with earthen parapet and ditch, having several small bastions for field-guns to flank the faces. The cantonments consist of wattle and daub huts for twenty-two officers and 500 men, infantry, and one officer, thirty-six cavalry, sixteen artillery, &c.; also wattle and daub huts for hospital, guard-room, &c., and a permanent stone magazine for 2,152 quarter barrels of powder.

13. Forts Pato and Grey are fieldworks very similar to the temporary posts above-mentioned, but of irregular shapes. Fort White consists of an irregular stone wall enceinte, with permanent cavalry stables for twenty-six troop horses.

14. Temporary huts for thirty infantry, but has the magazine outside, the enclosure as well as officers' quarters and some other huts.

15. The foregoing was hastily written only a few hours before the closing of the post, and merely gives a general outline of the posts in Kaffraria.

(Signed) J. J. Bisset, Lieut.-Colonel,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

King William's Town,
30th June 1856.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

RETURN of the White Population of King William's Town, showing the probable value of immoveable property therein, also the number of dwelling-houses, 28th June 1856.

STREETS.	Adults.		Minors.		Total.		Number of dwelling-houses.	Probable amount of property.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.			
								£	
Smith Street - -	56	26	40	20	96	46	33	23,880	
D'Urban Street - -	37	21	22	23	59	44	22	13,190	English Church, £4,850.
Berkeley Street - -	29	23	26	30	55	53	25	7,940	
Mackinnon Street - -	16	11	4	9	20	20	10	2,700	Wesleyan Chapel, £1,500.
Amatola Row - -	24	14	22	19	46	33	15	6,000	
New Town - - -	36	31	39	38	75	69	36	9,365	Roman Chapel, £500.
Clerks and others not house-holders - - -	10	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	
Totals - -	198	126	153	139	361	265	141	63,075	£6,850.
Churches - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,850	
							£	69,925	

Appendix No. 6.

DESPATCH* from GOVERNOR Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

ANGLO-GERMAN LEGION.

SIR, Cape Town, 11th July 1856.

Military, No. 6.

ADVERTING to your despatch of the 25th of March last, upon the subject of the employment of the Anglo-German Legion in this Colony, I have the honour to state that I think it of very great importance that this measure should be so conducted that as great a portion as practicable of the expenditure incurred in the undertaking may be recovered for the public.

2. This seems desirable, not only upon grounds of public economy, but because it may hereafter be thought right in the case of Natal, and even perhaps as regards this Colony, to encourage a system of military colonization; and there can be no hope of obtaining the approval of Parliament for such a system unless it can be shown that it can be carried out at no great cost to the mother country.

3. The sources from which I think a considerable part of the cost of the proposed experiment can be repaid are,—

1st. The 40,000*l.* voted for this purpose by the Colonial Parliament.

2d. That portion of Schedule D. which is reserved for the same purpose, and which, in the next five years, will yield another sum of at least 40,000*l.*, making a total amount of 80,000*l.*

3d. The amount realized by the sale of lands, which I propose should be reserved for this object in each military settlement. I hope that the sum ultimately yielded by these lands will reach at least 100,000*l.*

4. I think, therefore, that I shall be justified in assuming that Her Majesty's Government will eventually recover from colonial sources from 180,000*l.* to 200,000*l.* of the amount expended on locating the Anglo-German Legion in this country. This is of course quite exclusive of the saving which Great Britain will ultimately effect by the reduction of the military force serving here and by avoiding the enormous cost of Kaffir wars.

5. In order that as great an amount as practicable may be derived from the sale of the lands reserved either in or in the immediate vicinity of the military settlements, I propose that from the moment of the Legion arriving in this Colony all these reserved lands should at once be placed under the control of an officer selected for the purpose by the Secretary of War.

6. This officer should be charged with the duty of disposing of these lands, under such regulations as might be approved of by the Governor of the Colony; he should also receive the amounts paid as purchase money, and deposit them in the military chest, and the Governor would then, upon receiving a copy of the receipt, together with a description of the land disposed of, execute a Crown grant for it in favour of the purchaser.

* This Despatch will also be found printed at page 44 of this collection.

7. I would also propose that the officer who may be charged with the conduct of the financial affairs connected with the Legion should be the authority with whom the officers of the Legion and all other persons should correspond upon all questions connected with the advances which are to be made for building the houses of officers or men, or for the purchase of stock or implements, and generally upon all questions which might arise regarding expenditure of any kind whatever connected with the Anglo-German Legion, or regarding lands assigned to members of the Legion, or lands reserved to be sold, in part payment of the cost incurred in settling the Legion, or in fulfilment of the agreement which may be entered into with the officers regarding the remission money in the purchase of land to which they are to become entitled.

8. Without Her Majesty's Government afford me the assistance of an officer specially charged with the fulfilment of these duties, it will be quite impossible for me to get through the amount of work which will be thrown upon me in conducting the location of the Anglo-German Legion in this Colony, and much unnecessary expenditure will undoubtedly be incurred.

9. Whilst, if an able and intelligent officer is appointed to discharge the duties I propose, when once the necessary regulations have been laid down, the greater part of the business which can arise will be disposed of in his office without the necessity of any reference to me ; and my duty will consist in a merely general superintendence of the affairs which he transacts, whilst if any disputed points arise, or any new questions have to be decided, he can refer these, together with his report upon them, for my decision, and thus at once obtain, not only the opinion of the Governor regarding them, but the weight of his authority in deciding the questions at issue.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. Grey.

Appendix No. 7.

Letter from Governor Sir George Grey to Major Grant.

Sir, Government House, Cape Town, 14th July 1856.

In reference to that part of your instructions which authorizes you to leave Capt. Hoffman, of the British German Legion, in the Colony if I desire to retain him here, I have to acquaint you that although Capt. Hoffman has shown the desire and ability to render himself useful here, I think the public service will be best promoted by permitting him to return to England to describe to his countrymen the nature of the Colony to which they are coming, and to give them information as to what they will require to bring with them, particularly cautioning them not to bring any unnecessary articles, as much will be lost and spoilt upon their first arrival, whilst they can obtain here almost everything which they will require.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. Grey.

Conditions for the Formation of a Military Settlement in British South Africa.

War Department, 24th September 1856.

1. The officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of the "*British German Legion,*" may claim the fulfilment of the Articles of Capitulation under which they entered Her Majesty's Service ; *or,*

2. They may be sent as military settlers to the Cape of Good Hope and British Kaffraria on the following terms :—

I. Duties.

3. They will be liable to serve as military settlers from the date of their landing in South Africa, and for seven years after their location, as follows :—

First.—They are to resist the attacks of an enemy, or to aid the civil power.

4. *Second.*—They are to attend for exercise on such days as the Governor may appoint during the first three years (not exceeding 30 days in any one year), and to muster every Sunday for church parade.

5. *Third.*—For the last four years they are to attend for exercise on on such twelve days in each year as the Governor may appoint, and for muster every Sunday for church parade.

II. Imperial and Colonial Engagements with the Military Settlers.

6. For the above-mentioned services the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates who may volunteer and be approved, will be conveyed to South Africa free of expense, the officers being furnished with a mess, and the soldiers with provisions during the voyage. They will take with them their arms, accoutrements, uniforms, and camp equipage, and will be provided with a canvas frock and trousers for the voyage.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

7. They will receive free rations from the day of their landing, and for one year after their location, or a commuted money allowance of equal value.

8. They will receive pay up to the day of *embarkation.*

9. From the day of *landing* in South Africa, and for three years from the date of their location, they will receive the following rates of pay :—

	s.	d.	
Pay or Colour Serjeant - - - -	1	2	per day.
Serjeant - - - - - -	0	11	„
Corporal - - - - - -	0	8	„
Private - - - - - -	0	6	„

(Trumpeters and Buglers the same as Privates.)

10. When called out for service in the field against the enemy, or in aid of the civil power, the pay of all ranks will be made up to the same rate as that of Her Majesty's troops. This expense will be borne by Colonial funds, in the case of their services being required in aid of the civil power, and by Imperial funds when they are employed against an enemy.

PENSIONS.

11. Every military settler, whether officer, non-commissioned officer, or private, wounded or disabled in defence of the Colony, will be granted the allowance for wounds received in action which may be sanctioned by the regulations in force in the Colony for the time being.

12. An advance of 5*l.* will be made to each man to provide himself with cooking utensils and tools, to be repaid during the second and third years of service.

13. Each non-commissioned officer and private, if located in a town already inhabited by a European population, will be allowed a building lot on which to erect his house. If located in a village or new settlement, he will be allowed an acre of garden ground in addition to a building lot.

14. They will have the same rights regarding depasturing stock on the common lands as the other inhabitants of the place where they may be located.

15. The details of the location of the force will be carried out by their own officers, from amongst whom a system of local magistracy may be provided.

16. Each non-commissioned officer and private will be required to build a cottage on the land allotted to him. For this purpose an allowance will be made,—

For a non-commissioned officer - - - -	£20
A private - - - - - - -	18

to be expended under the superintendence of the officers of the force appointed for that object.

17. The cottage and land will be held rent free for the seven years of his military service, provided he conforms to the rules and regulations laid down for his guidance, and subject to the provisions of Article 23.

18. The house, when built, must be kept in good repair without expense to the public.

19. Until the cottages be built the men will have the use of their tents, or of such temporary huts as they may erect from materials at hand.

20. At the end of seven years from the date of *location*, the land, buildings, and improvements thereon will become the absolute property of the military settler if he has fulfilled the conditions of his agreement, and he will then be subject to no further military duty than that exacted from other settlers in defence of the country.

21. If an unmarried military settler should die before he shall have acquired a proprietary right to his house and land and improvements, they shall revert to the Crown.

22. The funeral expenses of a member of the force who may die during the term of his military service will be borne by the Imperial Government, such charge in no case to exceed one guinea.

23. During the seven years of military service, the settlers will be liable to such rules as may be laid down by the Governor for their control. For minor offences, fines may be inflicted under the same authority ; for more serious offences, any officer or man may be expelled the force by order of the Governor, and such expulsion will involve the deprivation of house and land, and of any other privileges which he may enjoy as a military settler.

MARRIED MEN.

24. The wives and families of non-commissioned officers and privates will be conveyed to South Africa free of expense for passage or provisions, and they may be provided with rations during the first year or any part of it, in locations in which the Governor of the Colony may consider it necessary.

25. At every location, accommodation of a temporary nature is or will be provided for the families of the men, and for the safe custody of the arms and stores.

26. If a married settler die and leave a widow or a family, his lands, buildings, and improvements thereon shall become their property, according to the Colonial law of inheritance, even if the deceased should not have fulfilled the full period of his military service.

27. The wives and children of non-commissioned officers or privates who may be now in Germany may be brought from Hamburg, Bremen, Rotterdam, or Ostend at the public expense, and may accompany their husbands and parents to South Africa, if they arrive in time, or they will be sent after them as opportunities occur.

28. The same indulgence will be extended to the affianced brides of unmarried non-commissioned officers and privates who can satisfy their commanding officer of the reality of the engagement of marriage.

Officers.

29. A reduced number of officers will be selected to accompany and form part of the force, viz.:—

1 Field officer - - - - - -	per 1,000 men.
15 Company officers - - - - -	,,
3 Medical officers - - - - -	,,
1 Staff officer (as paymaster and quartermaster) -	,,

30. The officers will receive from the day of their landing in South Africa, and for three years after their location, the half of their present rate of pay, except when called out for active service in the field, when this will be made up to the full pay and allowances of their rank, as per Article 10.

31. Each officer will receive an allotment of land for building and garden purposes of at least double the extent of that of a non-commissioned officer or private.

32. In lieu of barracks or house-rent, each officer will receive an allowance for the purpose of building on his land according to the following scale:—

Field officer - - - - -	£200
Captain - - - - - -	150
Subaltern - - - - - -	100

To be paid in instalments regulated by the progress of the building.

33. The public lands in the Colony are disposed of only by sale, but officers who go out under the present conditions will be allowed in the purchase of such lands a remission of the purchase money according to the following scale:—

Field officers - - - - -	£300
Captains - - - - - -	200
Subalterns - - - - - -	150

34. Any officer who shall, at the end of the first three years of service or sooner, signify his intention not to prolong his service beyond the said period of three years, shall forfeit his house and such portion of his land, with the improvements thereon, as shall have been derived from the Government free grant, or was granted as the equivalent of the remission money referred to in the last paragraph, all of which shall revert to the Crown.

35. Every officer who continues to serve for the remaining four years of this engagement shall be liable to the same conditions as to service and pay as are already provided for non-commissioned officers and privates, in consideration of which every such officer shall, at the expiration of the full term of seven years, be entitled to a free grant as his *absolute property* of the house and building lots, and also of such land as he may have acquired by virtue of Article 33.

Married Officers.

36. Married officers will be allowed to take their wives and families to South Africa free of expense for passage or provisions, and a passage will be given to one unmarried female servant in addition to each family, if required.

37. The widows and children of officers will succeed to the lands and property of their husbands and parents, as in the case of non-commissioned officers and privates. (See Article 26.)

38. During the period of their service the officers will be required to discharge their military duties, and also to carry out the details of the location of their men.

(Signed) Panmure.
R. Von Stutterheim.

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 19 February 1857;—*for*,

"COPY of a DESPATCH from HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARY of STATE for the COLONIES to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL of *Canada*, dated the 4th day of December 1856, together with a Copy of the REPLY from the GOVERNOR-GENERAL, dated the 17th day of January 1857, inclosing a MINUTE of the COUNCIL on the Subject of the HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY'S TERRITORIES."

Colonial Office, 12 March 1857. } H. LABOUCHERE.

SCHEDULE.

Number in Series.	From whom.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
		1856:		
1	The Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir E. Head.	4 Dec. - No. 179	Stating that it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to bring the whole subject of the affairs of the Hudson's Bay Company under the investigation of a Committee of the House of Commons, and desiring him to consider what steps it may be necessary to take in order that the views of the Provincial Government may be represented before the Committee - - -	1
		1857:		
2	Governor Sir E. Head to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.	17 Jan. - No. 9	In reply to preceding Despatch, and enclosing a Minute of the Council on the subject - - - -	2

— No. 1. —

(No. 179.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor-General Sir *E. Head.*

Sir, Downing-street, 4 December 1856.

I AM desirous of informing you, at the earliest period, of certain important questions which have recently been raised respecting the affairs of the Hudson's Bay Company in British North America, and of the steps which Her Majesty's Government have in contemplation regarding them.

You are aware that the Hudson's Bay Company claim, under their charter of 1670, and the various Acts of Parliament which they consider to have subsequently recognised it, rights of proprietorship, exclusive trade, taxation, and government, over all the regions under British dominion watered by streams flowing into Hudson's Bay. The extent and ground of this claim are defined in the "Statement of Rights," printed in the annexed Parliamentary Paper, and in the accompanying Map.

The

Parliamentary Paper, No. 542, of 1850.

The Hudson's Bay Company also claim, and actually exercise rights of exclusive trade, although not the ownership of the soil, over all the territory comprised in a certain license to trade, granted in the year 1838 by the Crown, under the provisions of the Act "for regulating the Fur Trade," 1 & 2 Geo. 4, c. 66, of which license copy is also annexed to this despatch.

Parliamentary Paper, No. 547, of 1842, page 9.

It has been intimated to me, on the part of the Hudson's Bay Company, that as their license expires in 1859, and as a very long period is required before any important change of arrangements can be notified and acted on throughout the vast and distant regions affected by it, it will be very desirable that the views of Her Majesty's Government and of Parliament as to the renewal of the license should be ascertained as early as possible.

Her Majesty's Government have therefore determined on bringing the whole subject under the investigation of a Committee of the House of Commons at the earliest convenient time. The inquiry will mainly be directed to the question of the renewal of the license; but it must incidentally embrace the general position and prospects of the Hudson's Bay Company.

As many points may arise in the course of this inquiry which may affect the interests of Canada, I have to instruct you to consider, with the advice of your Council, the question whether it may be desirable to send witnesses to appear before the Committee, or in any other manner to cause the views of the provincial government and the interests of the Canadian community to be represented before this Committee.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 2. —

(No. 9.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *E. Head* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere.*

Government House, Toronto, C. W.,
17 January 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your despatch of 4th December last, No. 179, relating to the Hudson's Bay Company.

I now enclose a copy of a Minute of Council which I have approved this day. At the same time I desire to observe that I express no opinion of my own as to the fact that the western boundary of Canada extends to the Pacific Ocean.

January 17, 1857.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edmund Head.*

COPY of a REPORT of a COMMITTEE of the Honourable the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, dated 17th January 1857, approved by His Excellency the Governor-General.

THE Committee of Council have read with great satisfaction the despatch of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, of the 4th of December last, on the subject of the Hudson's Bay Company's occupation of the great North-west territory of America.

They rejoice that the important position and advantages of that great portion of the continent have received such prominent attention from the Imperial Government, and are to undergo the examination and consideration of a Committee of the House of Commons in England.

The Committee desire to urge the importance of ascertaining the limits of Canada, in the direction of the territory over which the Hudson's Bay Company claim jurisdiction. The general feeling here is strongly that the western boundary of Canada extends to the Pacific Ocean.

In

In this, or in any view, the tracing and fixing on the ground, the line of separation between the United States and these territories of the North-west is of great importance. The rapid settlement of Minnesota, shortly to be admitted a state of the American Union, renders this the more necessary, for as civilisation approaches the boundary, so will be increased the difficulty of maintaining the distinction between the rights of the two nations on the frontier. Already, the Committee have reason to believe that difficulties in this respect have occurred, or at least have been threatened, and the importance cannot be underrated of early guarding against any such.

The Committee are most anxious that Canadian interests should be properly represented before the proposed Committee of the House, and that opportunity should be afforded for carefully and closely watching any evidence that may be adduced before that body, and they will take the earliest occasion of suggesting to your Excellency the manner in which they conceive this can be best accomplished. Situated as Canada is, she necessarily has an immediate interest in every portion of British North America, and the question of the jurisdiction and title claimed by the Hudson's Bay Company is to her of paramount importance.

(Certified.)

(signed) *Wm. H. Lee*, C. E. C.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the SECRETARY of STATE for the COLONIES to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL of *Canada*, together with the REPLY of the GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

(Mr. Labouchere.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
13 *March* 1857.

113.

Under 1 *oz.*

MALTA.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 9 March 1857;—*for*,

"COPIES or EXTRACTS of any CORRESPONDENCE between the Colonial Office and the Governor of *Malta*, on the Subject of the Working of the JURY LAW in general, and especially with reference to the Trial of the Murderer of Captain *Graves*."

Colonial Office,
21 March 1857.

H. LABOUCHERE.

(*Mr. Kinnaird.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
21 *March* 1857.

SCHEDULE.

Number in Series.	From whom.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page.
		1856:		
1.	Governor Sir William Reid to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.	25 September - No. 97.	Enclosing Translation of the Verdict of the Jury on the Trial of the Boatman who stabbed the late Captain Graves, R.N. - - - - -	3
2.	The Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir William Reid.	18 October - No. 128.	Acknowledging the above Despatch - - -	4
3.	Governor Sir William Reid to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.	8 November - No. 112.	Report of the Trial of Giuseppe Meli for the Murder of Captain Graves enclosed, and expressing dissatisfaction at the result of the Verdict - - - - - - - - -	4
4.	The Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir William Reid.	27 November - No. 144.	Acknowledging the above Despatch, and expressing serious concern at the result of the Trial -	4

COPIES or EXTRACTS of CORRESPONDENCE between the Colonial Office and the Governor of *Malta*, on the Subject of the Working of the JURY LAW in general, and especially with reference to the Trial of the Murderer of Captain *Graves*.

— No. 1.—

(No. 97).

No. 1.
Governor Sir W. Reid to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.
25 Sept. 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Wm. Reid* to the Right Hon. *H. Labouchere.*

Palace, Valletta, 25 September 1856.
(Received, 4 October 1856.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 128, 18 October 1856, p. 4.)

THE trial of the boatman who stabbed Captain Graves having now taken place, I transmit herewith the verdict of the jury, by which you will see that he has not been found guilty of the capital offence. There was much excitement here in the interval between the death of Captain Graves and the trial, and in consequence of doubts being expressed as to what would be the result of the trial, the Crown Advocate employed the best means in his power in order to have the trial well reported. The Report will take some time to prepare, but as soon as it can be got ready I shall transmit it to you.

Enclosure. Translation.

2. The foreman of the jury stated, on giving in the declaration, that the supervening accidental cause mentioned in that declaration was the medical treatment.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Wm. Reid,*
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Encl. in No. 1.

(Translation.)

THE jury unanimously declares that the accused, Giuseppe Meli, is guilty of wilful severe bodily harm, inflicted on the person of Captain Thomas Graves, on which death ensued owing to supervening accidental causes, and not to the nature and natural consequences alone of such harm.

(signed) *Em^le Imbroll,*
Foreman.

The Court having seen the declaration of the jury on the indictment against Giuseppe Meli, having seen Article 31 and the third paragraph of Article 210 of the Criminal Laws, quoted by the Crown Advocate, considering, that under the circumstances of the case, and owing especially to the gravity of the offence, and to the absence of any excuse or circumstance extenuating the guilt of the said Meli, there is no ground for the application of the minimum of the punishment, as asked by the counsel for the said Meli, has condemned the said Giuseppe Meli, who has been declared guilty of a wilful severe bodily harm against the person, of which death ensued owing to a supervening accidental cause, and not to the nature or natural consequences of the offence, to the punishment of hard labour for nine years.

(signed) *Vinz^o Vous,*
Reg^r.

— No. 2.—

(No. 128.)

No. 2. Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir William Reid. 18 October 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Hon. *H. Labouchere* to Governor Sir *Wm. Reid.*

Sir, Downing-street, 18 October 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 97 of 25th ultimo, transmitting the verdict of the jury on the indictment against Giuseppe Meli, the boatmen who stabbed Captain Graves, and promising to send me a report of the trial, which the Crown Advocate of Malta is having prepared.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 3.—

(No. 112.)

No. 3. Governor Sir Wm. Reid to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere. 8 Nov. 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Wm. Reid* to the Right Hon. *H. Labouchere.*

Palace, Valletta, 8 November 1856.
(Received, 15 November 1856.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 144, 27 November 1856, *infra.*)

ON the 25th September I reported to you that the jury which tried Giuseppe Meli for the murder of the late Captain Graves, R.N., Superintendent of the Ports at Malta, did not find the prisoner guilty of the capital offence. I am now enabled to transmit to you ten printed copies of the report of the trial, translated into English from Italian, under the supervision of Dr. A. Dingli, Crown Advocate. *Vide Appendix.*

2. I need not comment upon the evidence, for that has been far better done by the judge. But I may express the pain I feel, that in the face of the evidence, in the face of the avowal of the prisoner himself, and the summing up of the judge, the jury unanimously should have returned the verdict they did.

3. By such declarations as this, unanimously and solemnly pronounced, we have a right to judge of the sentiments of a people. At the same time the verdict of this jury is far from representing the sentiments of the whole of the Maltese; for I am sure that there are very many amongst them who abhor the execrable crime of assassination by the stiletto as much as I can do.

4. In my report to accompany the last* Blue Book, I stated that the success of trial by jury introduced into Malta in 1829, had been for some time doubtful, but that it was then working satisfactorily. I am still assured by Judge Micallef that, taking a general view of the working of the jury system in Malta, that opinion is correct.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Wm. Reid,*
Governor.

— No. 4.—

(No. 144.)

No. 4. Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir William Reid. 27 Nov. 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Hon. *H. Labouchere* to Governor Sir *Wm. Reid.*

Sir, Downing-street, 27 November 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 112, of the 8th instant, transmitting printed copies of the trial of Giuseppe Meli for the murder of the late Captain Graves, R.N., Superintendent of the Ports at Malta.

I have read with the most serious concern the report of the proceedings in this case, and the result of the trial of the perpetrator of this great crime.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

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* Extract of Report accompanying the Blue Book, 1855:

"Trial by Jury.

"Trial by Jury in criminal cases was introduced in 1829, and I am told its success was for some time doubtful; but it is now working satisfactorily, and no doubt is producing a very beneficial, although indirect result, by training the Maltese for the management of other public matters."

APPENDIX.

REPORT of the Proceedings of the Trial of *Giuseppe Meli*, for the Wilful Murder of Captain *Thomas Graves*, R.N.

REPORT of the Proceedings of the Trial of *Giuseppe Meli*, for the Wilful Murder of Captain *Thomas Graves*, R.N.—Translated from the Notes of the Short-hand Writer, Sig. *M. A. Bottari.*

HER MAJESTY'S CRIMINAL COURT.—Tuesday, 23 September 1856.

The Queen versus *Giuseppe Meli.*

Presiding Judge, Dr. A. MICALLEF, C.M.G. The sitting commenced at 9 o'clock A.M. precisely.

THE Registrar read the Indictment, which was as follows:—

The Queen *v.* G. Meli. The Crown Advocate in and for the Island of Malta and its dependencies, in the name of Her Majesty the Queen, accuses Giuseppe Meli, aged 43 years, a native of the city of Cospicua, boatman, guilty of wilful homicide; which crime he the said G. Meli committed, having maliciously, and with the intention of putting the life of Capt. T. Graves, Superintendent of the Ports, in manifest danger, and of killing him, caused the death of the said Capt. Graves, by inflicting on him, on the 25th day of August last, in the City of Valletta, with a knife, an incised wound on the abdomen, half an inch in length situated on the right of the umbilicum, two inches distant from the same, directed obliquely from above, downwards; penetrating the abdominal parts in the same oblique direction, and perforating the small intestine, of which wound, that caused inflammation of the peritoneum, the omentum, and the above-mentioned intestine, the said Capt. Graves died at Floriana, on the morning of the 28th August last.

Wherefore the Crown Advocate, in the name of Her Majesty the Queen, prays that the said G. Meli should be proceeded against according to the provisions of the law; and that the said G. Meli should be condemned to the punishment of death provided in Article 205 of the Criminal Laws for the Island of Malta and its dependencies, or to any other punishment, according to law applicable to the declaration of the guilt of the said Giuseppe Meli.

The Registrar then asked the Advocate for the prisoner, whether he had any preliminary exception to make. The Advocate having said he had no preliminary exception, the Registrar asked the accused whether he was guilty or not guilty; the prisoner pleaded "not guilty."

The nomination of the jury was then proceeded with. The Crown Advocate challenged two persons, and the accused three.

The jury was composed as follows:—Foreman, Mr. Emmanuele Imbroll. Common Jurors, Messrs. Paolo Apap, Filippo Vidal, Giuseppe A. Moore, Michel Angelo Agius, Paolo Zammit, Gio. B. Zammit, Dr. G. Zammit, Luigi Amore.

The jurors having taken the usual oath, the Registrar read the indictment to them, omitting the part relative to the punishment.

The Crown Advocate then addressing the jury said:—It would be useless to dissimulate; it would be useless for me to affect to state the circumstances of this case, as if they were new to you. On the other hand, the cry which the atrocious nature of the offence excited, as soon as it was known, and the sympathy which sprung up in return, on account of the incredibility of the offence itself, as reported, rendered it the subject of so many daily conversations in shops, in private houses, and in the streets—and of so many imprudent discussions in which the facts were commented on in various ways, that it is possible—you will excuse me, but I must tell you, it is possible that you, gentlemen of the jury, may be under some predisposition in one sense or another.

It was one of the highest functionaries, who was assaulted and stabbed with a knife at mid-day, in the principal street of Valletta, at a few yards from the military main guard, and from the principal station of the police, for a cause, which, it was said, and indeed was connected with the official duties of that functionary. Such an offence could but strike whoever heard it with horror; and it is natural that the more atrocious the crime, the more extraordinary are the circumstances which accompany it; the more the mind is inclined to disbelieve that, what the imagination could hardly conceive as possible, had actually occurred. I am far from blaming the generous sympathy which at some time was manifested. It is natural that men, under the influence of natural kindness and benevolent feelings, should seek to trace out some reason to believe that the offence had not been committed under the circumstances which were at first reported; and it was consequently believed that there had been some serious provocation, or some great abuse of power, on the part of the deceased. And when it was found that there had been no provocation, that no abuse of power had existed, many other things were surmised, and it was even said that it was not the knife, but the bad treatment that had caused the death of the wounded man.

In saying that I cannot dissimulate—and for this I again beg you to excuse me—the possibility that some predisposition may exist in your mind, I say so to beseech you to banish

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banish entirely from your mind anything you may have heard out of this court, whether against or in favour of the accused. It is an essential condition of every tribunal, whether composed of persons permanently attached to the judicial bench or composed of persons occasionally selected to represent the public, in the highest sense of the word—it is a condition, without which tribunals would be but instruments of persecutions, or of unjust and pernicious evasions—that every predisposition, arising from what may have been heard about the case, out of court, in private conversations, when opinions are expressed according to the impulse of the moment, the feeling by which those who express them are actuated, and the dispositions of men naturally inclined to benevolence, should be banished from the mind of those who are to give their verdict. All this must be set aside, or there can be no justice. I have always considered that, in the oath which is administered to the juriors, there is a passage which looks like a rhetorical affectation; in it the jurors are told not to lend themselves to hatred or malice. It is impossible that a jury should lend themselves to hatred or malice! If that is not an affectation, it is certainly unnecessary to make it the object of particular recommendation. I also think that it is not necessary to recommend the jurors, bound as they are by their oath, not to lend themselves to affection. No person conscious of the dignity of a citizen, and sitting as a member of a tribunal, between the accused on the one side, and on the other injured society demanding reparation, not as a revenge for the past, but as an example for the future, can wilfully lend himself to feelings of affection. There is a word, however, which I do not think is useless in the oath. It is, I hope, useless in this case; useless for you, but not useless in general. That word is firmness; you have heard that oath read by the Registrar, and you have taken it; and in the name of society I tell you, I do not persecute, I do not ask vengeance, I ask, in the name of society itself, the trial of this man. In the name of society and of yourselves, I ask that you should divest your mind of whatever is not connected with the merits of the case, that you should fix your attention exclusively on the evidence for the prosecution and for the defence which will be placed before you; and that you should give your verdict with that firmness which beseems honest and upright men as you are.

On the 25th of August, Capt. Graves, Superintendent of the Ports, having then obtained leave of absence for a short time, was on the point of leaving for England to accompany his wife back to Malta; to see a son of his who is there at college, leaving a daughter in this place, whom he would join again on his return. In the forenoon of that day it seems that he had been at the Marina; towards noon he came up about the city, and went to the chief secretary's office to bid farewell to some friends of his, before leaving the island. He was to leave at two o'clock of the same day; and a quarter, it might have been half-an-hour, after noon, he was coming out of the chief secretary's office, and was approaching the calesse, which was waiting to convey him to Floriana, the place of his private residence; he was to have embarked at the Marsamuscetto harbour, on board the "Alexandria" steamer. The prisoner had placed himself near the calesse; he had been there some time before Capt. Graves came back to start for Floriana, talking with the calesse driver. I shall hereafter tell you what that conversation was about, and what the intention of the prisoner was. At the moment that the calesse-man was putting the step down, for Capt. Graves to enter the calesse, and Capt. Graves was taking hold of the calesse door, the prisoner seized him and gave him two blows on the abdomen; with one of those blows he only caused a small cut in the clothes of Capt. Graves, but with the other he caused the wound described in the indictment. Capt. Graves, who was cheerfully preparing for a journey on private affairs, certainly could never have imagined to be unsafe in the principal street of the town; and in what street of Valletta, at what hour, was it ever doubted that any one's life was not safe? The prisoner, as soon as he had inflicted those blows, let go his hold of, or was pushed back by Capt. Graves, and went in the direction of the "Caffé di Commercio," always keeping on the footpath on the side of Said's Coffee-house. Capt. Graves cried out "Police, Police." There were three policemen, one under the arches, another at the corner of Strada Teatro and Strada Reale, and the third was coming to that part, from Strada Mercanti, and at that moment met the prisoner in the middle of the street at the crossing of Strada Reale and Strada Santa Lucia. One of the two first policemen saw the prisoner move from the wall, against which he was standing, and attack Capt. Graves, giving him two blows, but he could not say whether those blows were with the hand or with a weapon. The third policeman only saw the prisoner running in the direction of the place where he was, and Capt. Graves, who was crying out "Police, Police." That policeman arrested the prisoner, and Capt. Graves immediately after went to a dispensary of an acquaintance of his (that of Dr. Sammut) where there was also Dr. Clinquant. These two gentlemen examined the wound. From that first examination, however, it was very difficult, and perhaps impossible, to know the depth of the wound itself. Captain Graves was wounded, as it seems, whilst in a position somewhat bent; in fact, it was afterwards found, that the stab passed the walls of the abdomen, through the membranes which are between the walls of the abdomen and the intestines, and penetrated the small intestine, but the external division of the flesh was two inches above the division which was found in the intestine. This is a circumstance which may be easily explained. The muscles of that part of the body are very contractile, and any movement can alter the position of the muscles on the external part of the abdomen, whilst the intestines remain in their ordinary position. Thus Capt. Graves having been stabbed while he was stooping, on sitting himself up erect, the external muscles which were wounded took another position, whereas the intestine never changed its position. Those medical gentlemen dressed the wound according to the principles of their profession, and although they had not seen the depth of the wound,

wound, there were however sufficient reasons for them, there being a division of the flesh, a wound in the abdomen, to believe that the wound, not healing by the first intention, might cause an inflammation affecting the peritoneum, a membrane adherent to the parietes of the abdomen, by which life would be in serious danger. And therefore those gentlemen in their report to the police said that the wound was dangerous on account of the consequences that might follow. The word consequences does not seem to be used by all professional men in medical jurisprudence, in exactly the same sense. Nomenclature varies according to various systems. It seems, however, generally taken to mean that, which, with more or less probability, might follow from a wound, if it does not heal by the first intention. But if the wound, as in the present case, is situated in a part near a membrane to which the inflammation might extend, when such inflammation takes place it is considered as a natural and immediate consequence of the wound, excepting there should be the concurrence of other particular causes.

From that Dispensary, Capt. Graves proceeded to Floriana not in his calesse, but in a carriage, which had a much easier movement, and there he was placed in bed—I think you will hear a great deal from medical men, not only on the particulars of the wound, but also on the general state in which Capt. Graves was—A wound on the person of a particular constitution might produce a shock of a small degree, on another it might be more injurious; and in the present case the circumstance of having received a stab with a knife in revenge, had indeed the effect of shaking all the nervous system of Capt. Graves.

On that same day, in the evening, Capt. Graves was visited by Dr. Chetcuti, not as his medical attendant, but as a friend. Immediately, that is, one or two hours after the wound was inflicted, it was treated by Dr. Simpson, a surgeon of one of the regiments here, his medical attendant; and, lastly, Captain Graves was also visited by Dr. Stilon. Of this latter circumstance I was not aware until two or three days ago. Capt. Graves was wounded on the 25th, half an hour after mid-day; he went on gradually sinking, and died on the 28th at $\frac{1}{4}$ to 8 a.m., about two days and 19 or 20 hours after having received the wound.

These, gentlemen, are the material facts of the wounding, and of the consequences of the wound. From what I have said you see under what circumstances the wound was inflicted, and who was the person by whom it was inflicted. I was telling you that you will have no doubt as to the person of the offender, when you hear the witnesses who saw the prisoner near the calesse, as though he was waiting for something. One of those witnesses saw him move his arm, and give Capt. Graves two blows, although he cannot say with what those blows were given. All those witnesses heard the instant call of Capt. Graves when he was wounded, "Police, Police, arrest him," and at a distance of a few paces the offender was arrested. Even if there were no other proofs than these, there could not be the shadow of a doubt that the prisoner was the person who had inflicted the wound. But there are other proofs which, however, are connected with other observations, which it will be my duty to submit to you hereafter.

I momentarily interrupt my observations on the evidence, to make some remarks explanatory of the indictment, which it is my duty to do.

The indictment contains a charge of wilful homicide. By the word wilful, used in the indictment, is meant, that an homicide was committed by a person who intended to commit it: that is to say, that it was not committed through imprudence, inadvertence, or inattention, in which case it would be called involuntary homicide. It is wilful because the hand of the offender was guided by his will; and it is immaterial by what passion this will was urged, whether by instantaneous passion, or by a passion long nourished. It matters little what circumstances might excuse it—no excuse can change its nature of wilful murder. There might exist grounds of excuse, and the law indeed admits excusable wilful homicides, but then only when those circumstances occur, which the law recognizes as reasons of excuse.

In the indictment it is stated, that the prisoner caused the death of Capt. Graves by inflicting on him a wound maliciously, and with the intention of putting the life of Captain Graves in manifest danger, and of killing him. The word maliciously is equivalent to the word wilfully, with this addition only, that it implies that the person who committed the crime knew that the act which he committed was unlawful;—maliciously means that he intended to perpetrate the act, and knew that that act was prohibited by the law—that it was not a lawful act. If in the present case it should not be proved (as I regret to say, it will be proved beyond the measure of evidence required by law), that there was a deliberate intention to kill, if it should only be proved that there was an intention solely of putting the life of Capt. Graves in manifest danger, and that by the act guided by such intention death ensued, that would still be wilful homicide.

I now return to the facts; I was, before, saying that it was an offence which had caused great excitement; an offence which, as I am informed by persons much older than myself, is unprecedented in Malta. A murder committed under those circumstances on the person of an individual who held a high public office. You will ask, what were the circumstances, —the motives which could have induced the prisoner to commit such a crime? Generally speaking, it is a condition of human nature that a man does not act without a motive; he must have a cause which impels him. In voluntary actions he is at liberty to act or not act, but every voluntary action of man is prompted by a motive. There occur cases of atrocious crimes committed without any motive being known; that is not however because motives are entirely wanting, although they cannot be traced out by the evidence. Even if in the present case evidence was wanting of the motives which induced the prisoner to

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kill Capt. Graves, it would not follow that there was no motive. The only thing that could be said is, that the murder was committed for motives unknown; unless the man was in such a mental state, that it might be said of him, that he did not act like a human being.

But the motive in the present case is known; the prisoner observing, after he had committed the offence, that Capt. Graves was following him, observing two policemen running after him and another one advancing towards him, saw at once that there was no chance of escape; possibly he never had any hope of escaping, possibly he acted under a passion of revenge which he would satisfy at any cost; but even if he had had any hope of escaping the vigilance of the public authorities at that moment, any such hope must have forsaken him, because, in one moment, there were Capt. Graves and two policemen after him and another policeman in front of him.

The assault on Capt. Graves was daring! It was at a moment, and in a place the most secure, that he committed the crime. You will not then be surprised if, for some time, the prisoner continued in the same fit of daringness. It is not uncommon amongst men of extraordinary audacity, after they have committed an offence, to boast of it with increased satisfaction and to triumph. Thus the prisoner, as soon as he was arrested, on seeing that he was about to be searched, exhibited the knife, saying, "Here it is, with this I stabbed him," and continued, "I wanted to kill him, and I stabbed to kill him." This, gentlemen, you will hear from witnesses. The substance was this, that he stabbed Capt. Graves to kill him, and if his death did not ensue and another opportunity was offered he would kill him; subsequently, the prisoner having been taken to the police station, Inspector Psaila spoke to him in the presence of other police officers, and to the usual question, "What have you done?" he answered the Inspector, "that Capt. Graves had caused his boat to be hauled up, in consequence of erroneous information, without having heard his reasons; that Capt. Graves had thus killed him and his family," and he added, "Whoever kills must be killed, I have killed Capt. Graves, and others will kill me."

Between the first and second of these audacious boastings a guard or serjeant of the port department went to see him, and asked him what was the matter with him? the prisoner with an atrocious sneer answered, "I wished to bid farewell to Capt. Graves. I did not do it well; courage, and the strength of my hand failed me." The prisoner was afterwards visited by the police physician, and he repeated to that gentleman what he had previously said to others. This was on the same day, after the prisoner had committed the crime, and before the evening, I do not know the exact time. After the magistrate had commenced the preliminary investigation and heard the report of the police officer, he also asked the prisoner if he had anything to say, cautioning him that he was not bound to say anything, and that whatever he might say would be liable to be given in evidence against him. The prisoner repeated not all, but some of the circumstances of the case. He said that he gave the stab with intention to kill Capt. Graves; because until that day Capt. Graves was not yet dead, and perhaps there was also a hope that he might have survived the wound. After death had ensued, the magistrate, on another occasion, saw that the prisoner was disposed to say something. The magistrate, naturally inclined to avoid further declarations, repeated the same caution which he had given him on the first time. But the prisoner said, "Let me speak, I wish to tell all, and I want everything to be written down;" and he related the story about the boat, and other circumstances. He said that he found that the boat was greatly damaged, and added, that on that day he had tracked Capt. Graves, knowing his intention to leave by the Alexandria steamer about two o'clock in the afternoon, and that he followed him from the Marina, either behind the calesse or by some other way, in the direction which Capt. Graves took towards the chief secretary's office. There he waited for him, and on his coming out he stabbed him.

I might have passed over these circumstances without the charge being in the least weakened. The proofs, I told you, are complete. I omitted to state that the circumstance also that the prisoner had being waiting near the chief secretary's office for Capt. Graves, will result from the conversation which he held with the calesse driver, when after having said something against Capt. Graves, he asked the calesse-man if he was content, and added that Capt Graves was about to leave for London. With this not only is the evidence complete to show that there had been the infliction of a wound committed by the prisoner, but it is also fully complete to show any degree of premeditation, if it were necessary to prove premeditation. The declarations of the prisoner are not necessary to prove that circumstance; but they strengthen it, and above all, they show the state of mind of the offender when he committed the crime.

I have told you that in declaring that he had been the man who inflicted the wound, the prisoner immediately assigned the reasons for which he wanted to take revenge. You are perhaps surprised that this man was so sincere, if his audacity in this case may be called sincerity. He, however, had not been sincere in all that he said for the purpose of conciliating the sympathy which, in the minds of excitable persons, might perhaps be aroused in his favour. In relating his case, he said that he had committed the crime because Capt. Graves had ordered his boat to be hauled up for 15 days; because this had produced what he termed the murder of himself and his family; because, after the suspension of the use of the boat, it had opened in all parts. Those were the motives by which, he said, he had been impelled to commit the crime. However, even if such statement were true, it could only afford him an excuse if he had acted under momentary derangement of his senses; but there is no excuse when, between the time of the offence received and the revenge taken, any interval of time should intervene, notwithstanding that, at times, on again seeing the person who had offended him, his passion should have again arisen. He

wished

wished it to be understood that his act originated in motives of revenge for an offence which he had received. What, however, he stated to be an offence received from Capt. Graves was not an offence, and the loss sustained was exaggerated by the prisoner.

In order to have a comprehensive view of this part of the case, it is necessary to examine what occurred on several occasions, when the prisoner recently came in contact, I may say, with the office of the Port Department, of which Capt. Graves was the head.

The prisoner was, on the 6th of August, charged by Lieutenant Inglefield for having on the preceding day, when that gentleman had kept the prisoner's boat for an hour, refused to take 6 *d.*, which was the fare due to him according to the tariff, and claimed 10 *d.* or 1 *s.*; and also for having detained the said gentleman in the boat until the latter had changed a sovereign to be enabled to give him the sum demanded. The officer gave him that sum, and immediately complained of it in a letter to Capt. Graves. The prisoner said in his declaration, that he had not been heard by Capt. Graves, thus colouring the motive which had urged him to perpetrate the crime; but I have incontestable proofs to the contrary—an entry in the handwriting of Capt. Graves himself. This certainly was not written after the infliction of the wound. Further, I have witnesses yet living to prove, that when the prisoner was summoned before Capt. Graves, and Lieutenant Inglefield's letter had been read to him, the prisoner did not deny, but, on the contrary, admitted having demanded that precise sum, and for the same time which Lieutenant Inglefield mentioned in his letter. The prisoner only answered that it was hardly remunerative. Capt. Graves kept a book in which he registered his decisions in similar cases; this book is called "Defaulters' Book;" and with respect to the case of the prisoner, in the column headed "Evidence," it is noted, that Capt. Graves had, for evidence of the contravention, the letter of Lieut. Inglefield and the statement of the prisoner himself; and in the column in which the orders given are entered, there are the words "charge allowed." This was written in the handwriting of Capt. Graves himself. There were other individuals present who heard the altercation. No sooner had the prisoner heard the order for the boat to be hauled up, when he broke out into abusive language against Capt. Graves, and was consequently ordered away. These individuals who were present at the investigation which Capt. Graves made, will also be produced; you will see by the book, which will also be produced, that Capt. Graves never decided without evidence when the charge was denied, or when it was met with silence; and that only when the charge was admitted he did not at times hear witnesses. In this case there were no witnesses examined, because the accused admitted the charge, and only complained of the tariff. The fact having been admitted, what occasion was there for any further investigation? Thus one of the pretexts which the prisoner in his confessions adduced as an excuse for the offence is destroyed; and the second pretext will also disappear. He said that by being prevented from using his boat, his family and that of another man were, as he said, killed, and the boat itself ruined. There is not probably amongst you, gentlemen, any one (unless he be, like me, distant from the Marina) who does not know that the suspension from the use of a boat does not, in fact, as the practice is, include a suspension of the boatman's permission to work. The boat is hauled up; but when the licence of the individual is not suspended, the individual is suffered to work in other boats; and in fact, the prisoner, I am told, during the interval, worked in other boats. He used also to go and see his boat, and far from finding it damaged, he found that the guard, under whose charge the boats hauled up were, took care of, and from time to time wet them. This guard will tell you how the prisoner spoke contentedly of the good state of his boat; and he will also tell you how the prisoner, far from having been starved or oppressed through the suspension of the use of his boat, sometimes went himself with his family to eat and drink and amuse himself under a tent he fixed near the boat; and when the term of the suspension expired, the prisoner received permission to take possession of the boat again; and when the guard said to him, "See if it leaks," he showed himself quite pleased with its state. Besides, from the 22d, the day on which his boat was restored to him, to the 25th, the day when the crime was committed, the prisoner worked with the same boat. Thus, you see the other pretexts are also destroyed. But as he hated Capt. Graves, whatever happened to him in his occupation, he imputed it to that officer.

During the suspension, he was seen working in a boat by night time, without a lantern. The law requires, that after a certain hour every boat should carry a light. A guard reproached him, and told him that he would report him on the next morning. The prisoner, however, did not complain of the guard, but broke out into abuse against Capt. Graves. After the suspension of the boat was over, between the 22d and the 25th, the prisoner being at work in the same boat, had also one evening for some time left it without a light; a guard seeing a boat without a lantern, and only a small boy in it, called out towards that boat, and asked why there was no light; the prisoner came out of a tavern, saying that the boat was his own, and that he had gone to bring a light; the guard recommended him not to forget to light his lantern; and he again broke out into abuse of Capt. Graves. He said to the guard, after using various offensive words, "I do not allude to you, but to that *sacramento*, Capt. Graves." Some time before, the prisoner also had something to do with the same department; he was proceeded against in the Court of Judicial Police, and a punishment was inflicted upon him on the 24th July. From that moment his brutal hatred commenced, which led him to the last act. He wished to be revenged, and his desire of revenge must have commenced from the 24th July. On that occasion, there being some festival at Sliema, many of the boats of the Great Harbour received permission to go over to the harbour of the Marsamuscetto; the prisoner also wished to ply there with his boat, but he was without a companion. The law is clear, that a boat, particularly on feast days, is not allowed to be used by one man. In this case, also, a quarrel took place, and all this

Appendix.

he laid on Capt. Graves. From that time the prisoner began to entertain an idea of revenge. On every occasion he attributed all that went against him to Capt. Graves, and on every occasion the hatred which he felt against Capt. Graves was more and more inflamed; and remark, the last event was on the day preceding that when the crime was committed. You see, gentlemen, that after that last admonition, the prisoner determined on getting rid of Capt. Graves, as if he being no more, the laws would not remain to punish contraventions.

Now, considering the state of the prisoner, who went in search of his victim, followed him for a considerable distance, waited for him, struck him, and, after having stabbed him, boasted of having done so! considering all those circumstances, and particularly the motives which had urged the prisoner, and the absence of any cause of provocation at the time of the action, it is impossible to think that this man acted under any temporary loss of his senses, excepting of course that state of aberration of any man who commits an act knowing that it is an evil to be requited with evil. It is impossible to think that he was not in a normal state of mind, as much as any other man, who, revolting against his own reason, commits an act which reason forbids. I cannot, and if I could I should not, think it expedient to anticipate the defence, in order to reply to it beforehand. I think that what I have said to explain the indictment, and to show the deliberate will of the accused, is sufficient to justify that indictment. I shall now produce the witnesses and other evidence; and I again repeat, that if, from the evidence which I shall produce, the fact will result as it is stated in the indictment, I rely on your firmness, gentlemen of the jury; I am confident that you will give your verdict with impartiality, which it is your duty to do before God.

Witnesses for the Prosecution.*

No. 1.—*Luigi Aloisio*, Sub-Inspector in the Port Department; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I am employed in the Port Department. I am aware that the prisoner was once, at the demand of that department, summoned before the police court. It was in consequence of an official report, made by an officer of that department, that the prisoner had worked with his boat without a companion in the Marsamuscetto Harbour, contrary to the order of the sergeant. He had been warned several times not to do so by the sergeant on guard. He was summoned and sentenced by the magistrate to suffer 24 hours' detention; this I know by report. I was present when Sergeant Andrea Cassar made a report against this man for having worked in his boat without a companion; afterwards he was brought before Capt. Graves owing to his having asked more than the tariff allows, for having conveyed from Cospicua to Bighi Bay to bathe and back, an officer of one of the regiments. Capt. Graves asked him whether he was the boatman who had conveyed that officer from Cospicua to Bighi Bay, and he answered, "Yes, sir." This charge was explained to the prisoner in my presence. Capt. Graves told him that he had conveyed that officer to Bighi Bay to bathe; that the officer had offered him sixpence; that he was not satisfied, and had insisted upon having tenpence; this took place on the 7th August. The prisoner said, "I do not think that sixpence was the payment I ought to have had; I think I was entitled to tenpence." Capt. Graves asked him what time he had employed with the officer, and he answered, I was employed working for more than an hour with him; then Capt. Graves said to him:—"Even in case you had been employed upwards of one hour, how much would you have been entitled to according to the tariff, though according to the report you were not employed for so long a time, you would be entitled to receive fivepence?" Then the prisoner was sentenced to have his boat hauled up for fifteen days. This took place in my presence. Some of the boatmen when their boats are hauled up continue to work with other boats; I cannot say whether the prisoner had permission from the office to work; I am not aware whether he worked in other boats; sometimes the superintendent used to say, "You cannot work, neither you nor the boat," but he said nothing to the prisoner. Capt. Graves did not say to him not to work; he told him the boat must be hauled up for 15 days; when he said so, the prisoner began to grumble, and after he came out of the room made use of some obscene words alluding to Capt. Graves. He commenced saying: "Who are you? What can you do to me; who is that c—— of Capt. Graves?" Thereupon Capt. Graves came to the threshold and said: "Take him out," and Francesco Romolo took him out.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

When Andrea Cassar, the sergeant, made a report against the prisoner for having worked in Marsamuscetto harbour without a companion, it was a Sunday, a holy-day. I do not recollect whether there was on that day any particular festival at Sliema; I am not sure in what month it was; I was not present, and I do not know whether on that occasion any other man had worked in his boat alone; I have never seen the son of the prisoner in his boat; for that contravention he was summoned before the magistrates; prior to being thus summoned before the magistrates, he was brought before Capt. Graves; I was present on that occasion; he was ordered to be summoned before the magistrates; the prisoner conveyed the officer from Cospicua to Bighi Bay to bathe, and when Capt. Graves told him so, he did not deny it; I have heard that from Bighi Bay he conveyed him back to Cospicua; I do not know whether the prisoner worked when his boat was hauled up; I do not know that when the prisoner grumbled Capt. Graves said anything to him; I do not know that he made use of any threats to him not to allow his ever going afloat again, but there were

* All the depositions as reported also contain the answers given by the witnesses to questions put by the Court.

were no threats; when the prisoner commenced his abuse Capt. Graves said :—" Get him out;" I did not hear that he was reported against once more between the time when Sergeant Cassar complained of the first contravention and the time of the second, that is to say, when the officer reported him; I do not know whether any other report was made against him after that of the officer; I have never made any report against the prisoner to Capt. Graves; I can only say that four or five months ago the prisoner brought a shawl which he said an officer had left in his boat; and he left the shawl with me; I then reported that circumstance to Capt. Graves.

The Crown Advocate said here is the sentence alluded to. It is at page 12 of the process of the indictment, as follows :—" Extract from the Register of Decisions, No. 3.—Court of Judicial Police of Malta. Thursday, the 24th July 1856. Dr. Salvatore Cecy, Sitting Magistrate. Police *v.* Giuseppe Meli. Police sergeant, 1st class, Vincenzo Mifsud, accused Giuseppe Meli of having insulted the officers of the Port Department, and refused to obey their orders; wherefore, he demanded that the said Giuseppe Meli should be punished according to law. The accused denied the charge brought forward against him. Andrea Cassar, sergeant, Port Department, and Pietro Falzon of Vincenzo, deceased, guard in the same department, were produced by the police, and examined on oath. The Court declared that it was proved that the accused, Giuseppe Meli, insulted the officers of the Port Department, who, on the 20th July instant, warned him not to ply with his boat between Marsamuscetto and Sliema without a companion, an offence contemplated in article 308, No. 5, of the Code of Criminal Laws. Wherefore (the Court) condemned the said Giuseppe Meli to detention for 24 hours. *V. Micallef*, Clerk."

No. 2.—*Antonio Fenech*, Acting Superintendent of the Ports; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

Amongst the papers existing in the office at the head of which I am at present, there is a letter bearing date the 6th of August, which is signed by Lieutenant Inglefield of the 14th Regiment. It is addressed to Capt. Graves, and the signature is H. H. A. C. Inglefield. I have given out this copy from my office [*referring to a paper presented to him by the Crown Advocate.*] There is a book in the department called the Defaulters' Book; I have given an extract therefrom; this is it, and this is my signature; the handwriting in the book is Capt. Graves'; all the book is in his own handwriting.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

This is the book wherein Capt. Graves registered his decisions; I have never been present when any decision was given.

Crown-Advocate.—This is the letter alluded to :—

" Sir, " Camp, St. Nicholas Bastion, August 6th.

" I have to lodge a complaint against a boatman (No. 682) for refusing to take 6*d.*, his fare, I having hired him to take me over to Ricasoli and back, for the purpose of bathing, which occupied exactly an hour.

" 2dly—For detaining me in his boat, thereby making me miss a most important duty in camp, and in order to get on shore I had to pay him the sum he demanded (10*d.*), having no change in my pocket but a sixpence and a sovereign; he refused to put me on shore to get change and insisted upon my remaining in the boat until he got change; however, after a long delay, he landed me. Lastly, I beg leave to mention that his behaviour was most impertinent and overbearing. In giving you so much trouble pray accept my apologies.

" I remain, &c.

(signed) " *H. H. A. C. Inglefield*, Lt. 14th Regt."

" Captain Graves, R.N."

(A true copy from the original.)

(signed) *A. Fenech*, Acting Superintendent of the Ports.

Crown Advocate.—The extract from the book to which I referred is this :—

Extract from the Defaulters' Book.

Date.	No. of Boat.	Name and Nickname of Boatman.	Nature of Complaint and by whom made.	Evidence examined.	Date of Decision.	Decision arrived at, and Punishment awarded by the Superintendent of the Ports.	Cessation of Punishment.
1856. 6 August -	682	Giuseppe Meli *tal Kirscia.*	- - Reported by Lt. Inglefield, 14th Regt. for charging more than his fare.	- - Note from Lieut. Inglefield and Boatman.	1856. 7 August	- - Charge allowed—Boat hauled up for a fortnight.	

(A true extract from the said book.)

(signed) *A. Fenech*,
Acting Superintendent of the Ports.

Appendix.

No. 3.—*Ferdinand Inglott,* Assistant to the Superintendent of the Ports; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I was familiar with Capt. Graves. I know his handwriting. This book is wholly written in his own handwriting. This page is written by Capt. Graves. In almost all cases, I was present when Capt. Graves had occasion to inquire into similar reports and decide thereon. In this case I was not present. In this page, in the colnmn decisions, there are the words "charge allowed." In this other case there is "charge denied." He inserted "charge allowed" in cases where the party admitted the accusation. When the party did not deny it, but remained silent, Capt. Graves did not note down the circumstance. In case of some particular inquiry, Capt. Graves used to put his initials. He invariably heard witnesses; but when the party did not deny, he did not enter much into details. He put his initials in cases where he laid great stress upon an evidence.

No. 4.—*Francesco Romolo,* a Guard in the Port Department; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I know that the prisoner was once summoned to the office. It seems to me that it was on the 7th of August last. I saw him coming out. I was at the threshold of the door. I and another took the prisoner out of the office, because, when Capt. Graves had sentenced him to have the boat hauled up for a fortnight, he expostulated, used obscene words. We made him go out to stop his noise.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

The prisoner had been summoned to the office in regard to a question relative to the fare due to him for the hire of his boat. I am not aware that he presented himself to Capt. Graves after being sentenced to have his boat hauled up.

No. 5.—*Valentino Manzoni,* a Guard in the Port Department; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I do not recollect when Capt. Graves was wounded. I know that Capt. Graves was wounded. I do not recollect on what day of the week. Previous to when he was wounded, I met the prisoner, and made some observation to him. It was on the 22d August, in Nix Mangiare-street. He came without a lantern; it was about half-past nine. I fix that day, because I was then on duty. It was a few days before I heard that Capt. Graves had been wounded; I was near the University Stores when I heard of the wound inflicted on Capt. Graves; it was shortly after twelve o'clock. When I saw the prisoner without a lantern he was in his boat; I said to him, "Why is the lantern not lighted?" and he said, "Because the passenger did not like to have it lighted." I told him that I would report him, and he said that another time he would light his lantern. I told him he had better not venture another time to come without a lantern, as in that case I would report him. He answered, "When I land I shall light the lantern and go about my business." I made no report against him.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

I do not well remember where he was coming from with that passenger. I do not recollect whether the passenger told me where he was coming from. I do not know at what hour that passenger got into the boat; I know that the boat was the prisoner's, because when he took the lantern I saw the number. The lantern was in the boat, but it was not lighted. The number of the boat was 862. I do not know who the passenger was; I told the prisoner not to venture another time to ply without a light. The next day I met him, and he said to me, "Guard, I went to the office, and waited there for you." I said, "Who are you?" and he answered, "I am the man whom you ordered to go to the office at ten." Some person interfered, and said to me, "Don't mind him, as he is touched in the head."

No. 6.—*Salvatore Calleja;* Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I am employed in the Port Department. I am a guard at the Marsa. I have the boats hauled up under my custody by order of the Department. The prisoner's boat had been hauled up. I usually throw buckets of water on the boats when I have time. I threw water on the prisoner's boat. The prisoner knew this. He came once and said, "I see that you throw water on my boat, I intended to tar her over; but it does not matter;" seeing it wet, he could not tar her over. Subsequently he came another time, but he did not tar the boat over on both sides from want of sufficient time. This occurred three days after the boat had been hauled up. He then returned several times, the next day or the day after, and tarred the other side of the boat. He came once on a Sunday, in the evening, accompanied by three of his children; it was not to see the boat, but for a walk. Afterwards he came another time, also on a Sunday, with his family, after he had tarred over his boat. They came there in a boat, and his father was in their company; they eat something, remaining until about eight o'clock, and then they went away. The time during which the boat was to be kept on shore ended on a Thursday; he came on the evening of that Thursday, brought me an order, and told me that he had asked for it, because the period of the sentence had expired. He said, "I do not take the boat now, because I am not going to work this evening." Next day he came, together with his son; I gave them some assistance,

ance, and we launched the boat into the sea. When he saw the boat he said, "See how she leaks." This he said in a manner to show his satisfaction at the condition of the boat, as she was not leaky.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

His boat is an old one; it was repaired and patched up not long since. I saw no other person coming with him. I know Angelo Mifsud. If I am not mistaken he also had his own boat hauled up, and he was once in the prisoner's company. I saw them speaking together. I heard them say something about the sale of the prisoner's boat. Angelo Mifsud was saying to the prisoner, "Will you have so much?" but the sale did not take place. I do not know what was the price asked or offered; I saw them speaking together, but I cannot say what were the terms proposed; it was not concluded. I do not recollect that either Giuseppe Meli or Angelo Mifsud said anything to me regarding the proposed bargain. The conversation about it was before I saw the prisoner with his father, when they came and had some repast.

No. 7.—*Michele Lanzon*, a Guard in the Port Department; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

Capt. Graves was wounded on Monday the 28th August. Before that day I met the prisoner; it was on the 24th August, the day previous to that when Capt. Graves was stabbed. I was stationed on the Mole which leads to the street called Scala Nuova; it was about eight or half-past eight o'clock in the evening. I was there with some soldiers who were to go to Ricasoli. There was a boat at a short distance. I called out for the man of that boat, and received no answer; the boat was in the dark. Afterwards this man (the prisoner) came out of a shop, saying, "What are you bawling out for; what do you want?" I told him, I had been more than an hour calling for a boat, and no one answered me; "here are some military men who must go to their quarters." He answered me, that he had been to light his lantern. I said, "Is it now, at this hour, that you light your lantern? it is a quarter past eight. You are always angry with us subalterns, if we report you; and if the superiors punish you, you are also angry with them." He replied, "I am not angry with you subordinate people, but I am so against that ——" (using a blasphemous word in Maltese, and alluding to Capt. Graves). I told him he would be suspended for a fortnight; he replied, "I am not angry with your subalterns, but I am so against that —— Capt. Graves; I have got accustomed to be suspended from fortnight to fortnight." I am sure that this conversation took place on the evening of Sunday; I made no report against him.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

On that evening, when I was stationed on the Mole and called for a boat, there was no other boat but that of the prisoner. My beat was from Scala Nuova up to the point called "dell' Ammiraglio." There was another boat which had something on board, for which I was compelled to send for the police. The prisoner's boat was at a little distance from the Mole, in charge of his son, as the prisoner was in the shop. Boats which are not exposed for working are moored or anchored, but the prisoner's boat on that occasion was in a position showing that he intended to work with her still. As to the military men I before alluded to, the prisoner not having appeared, and other boats having arrived, I used all my efforts to dispatch them to their destination. He made his appearance about the same time as the arrival of the other boats.

By the *Foreman of the Jury.*—*Q.* Why did you not report the prisoner after that conversation you had with him?

Witness.—It did not appear to me that there was sufficient cause for which I should have made a report against him.

The *Crown Advocate.*—I beg to state, at this stage of the proceedings, that I should wish to produce a document which exists in the process, but I cannot insist upon its admission. I say so because I have mentioned that document, and I am anxious that it should not be supposed that I have willingly omitted to produce it. It is the complaint made by Capt. Graves before the magistrate. Far from feeling any reluctance to produce it, I would willingly do so, inasmuch as it might avail to strengthen my evidence; but I do not consider it producible, inasmuch as it was not made *in articulo mortis*, nor in the presence of the prisoner.

The *Advocate for the Defence.*—On the contrary, I say it should be produced; and in the event of your not producing it, I shall do so. This document exists in the process, it forms part of the proceedings; you cannot, therefore, keep it back.

The *Judge.*—If the document is not in due form it cannot be produced.

The *Advocate for the Defence.*—But that document exists in the process, and is favourable to the defence. Why was it put in the process?

The *Crown Advocate.*—That document would only be favourable to the prosecution.

The *Judge.*—The Court cannot allow the production of that document (addressing the advocate for the defence). In the course of your defence, you will be allowed to say what you please concerning that document; but perhaps you will reconsider, and abstain therefrom.

Appendix.

No. 8. *Francesco Pace.*

I knew Capt. Graves; I hired my calesse to him the day he was stabbed. I went for him at his house, took him near the Monte di Pietà, where there is an office of steamers; afterwards from Strada Mercanti I drove him to the Custom-house, and from the Custom-house to the Treasury, where he alighted; it was mid-day, or a quarter past twelve. He did not come down by the door, he entered the Treasury; he cried, "Where is that man?" I put down the step of the calasse, and opened the door. I was stooping, but I felt something passing between us, between myself and Captain Graves. He turned and went behind the calesse, crying out, "Police, police, police." Before this happened, I saw a man near the door of the office, who told me that they had hauled up his boat for 15 days. He said, "They had kept the boat from me for 15 days." When Capt. Graves came down from the Treasury, he (the man) said nothing further. Previous to this a constable of police passed near me, and said to me, "Are you satisfied to-day?" "Why?" I answered, "Because you will soon go," he replied. At the time Capt. Graves called me, I no longer saw the person who had spoken to me about the boat. When I felt something passing between myself and Capt. Graves, I do not know whether it was a man; I followed Capt. Graves. I saw no hands moving towards Capt. Graves. I have already deposed on this subject before the Court of Magistrates.

The *Crown Advocate.*—See if this was your deposition—The Deposition of Francesco Pace, taken by Magistrate Dr. Zammit, on the 27th August:

My name is Francesco Pace; my father's name was Giuseppe; I live at Floriana; I am 45 years old; my occupation is that of calesse driver; I was born at Notabile.

The day before yesterday I hired my calesse to Capt. Graves, the Superintendent of the Ports, at nine o'clock in the morning. I took him to the Governor's palace, to his own office in the Marina, to the steamer's office, and lastly, after twelve o'clock, to the Treasury; and at about a quarter past twelve, while I was with my calesse before the door (of the Treasury or Chief Secretary's office), Capt. Graves having come back, and when he was in the act of opening the door of the calesse, and I was stooping and putting down the step of the calesse, I saw a man between us, who moved, I cannot say whether once or twice, his arm towards the said Capt. Graves; but as I was stooping, as I said, I did not see towards what part of his (Capt. Graves') body the blows were directed, nor did I see any weapon. Capt. Graves instantly cried, "Police, police," and I saw him behind the calesse, as if he were pursuing that man who was running away on the foot-path of Strada Reale, in the direction of Porta Reale. That man was arrested as soon as he reached the first corner, by a policeman who was there.

That man, with whom I was not acquainted, had been there about a quarter of an hour before what took place occurred, and had been standing against the wall on the right side of the door of the Treasury; and he had told me that his boat had been hauled up for 15 days. I cannot say whether he told me that his boat had been hauled up a fortnight ago, or hauled up for a fortnight.

At the moment when that man was between us, and moved as I said, a letter which Capt. Graves had in his hand fell down. I picked it up, and put it in the calesse with other letters, and the uniform and other things of Capt. Graves.

Afterwards having understood that Capt. Graves had gone to Dr. Sammut's dispensary, in front of St. John's church, I went there with my calesse, and remained there awaiting. I saw Capt. Graves while his wound was dressed. A constable then alone entered the calesse, and I took him to Capt. Graves' house at Floriana, where the constable left all the things that were in the calesse; Capt. Graves was conveyed to his house in a carriage.

I must explain that I did not see any one arresting that man; but I was told that he had been arrested.

The person at the bar, whose name, as he says, is Giuseppe Meli, is the man to whom I alluded, and who had told me that his boat had been hauled up 15 days; but I cannot positively say whether he was the man who afterwards came between us, and moved, as I said before, because I was stooping.

Ant. Zammit,
Magistrate.

his own
Francesco + Pace
hand.

Witness.—I think I said, I had heard a noise, not that I had seen a man. I did not see a hand, I felt something. I do not know whether it was the push of a man, but it was not of a vehicle, nor of a horse, because we were on the footpath. I thought that some blind man had run against him. I turned round, and I saw Capt. Graves behind the calesse. I then followed him. I picked up a letter from the ground, and followed him with the calesse. He went to Stilon's, opposite St. John's church, not near the door of the Treasury (Dr. Sammut's dispensary). From thence he left in a carriage, and went to his home, and I followed by order of the police.

The Foreman of the Jury asked whether he knew the prisoner.

Witness.—The first time I saw him was when I gave evidence in the police-court. I do not recognise him; I cannot say that he is the same man. I was then a little unwell. On that day he was dressed differently to what he is now. He does not appear to me as the same man who spoke to me at the door of the Treasury; I do not recognise him.

The *Judge.*—Have you seen that man anywhere else?

Witness.

Witness.—I saw him in the police-court when I gave evidence there. On that day I recognised him from his dress, but I am not sure he is the same man. I recognised him before the magistrates, but did so from his dress, not otherwise.

No. 9.—*Emmanuele Cristina*; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I know that Capt. Graves was stabbed on a Monday, but I do not know the day of the month. I was on duty as constable of police. I was on my watch at mid-day, under the archway of the public library, which watch was to end at four. About 20 minutes past 12, being thirsty, I went to the fountain of St. George's-square. On returning to my post I stopped near Millar's shop. Opposite the Treasury I saw a calesse standing still, and I saw Capt. Graves about to enter it. I was at the corner of Strada Teatro and Strada Reale. In the meantime the prisoner suddenly appeared, and I saw him give a blow towards Capt. Graves. I saw him strike, but I cannot tell whether he did so in front or at the back. Capt. Graves had already put his foot on the step; I did not see what the prisoner had in his hand. When the blow was struck against Capt. Graves, he put his hand to his abdomen, and cried out "Police, police." I then, with another constable, Paolo Pace, ran in the direction of Porta Reale, having seen the prisoner running that way. We ran on hearing Capt. Graves cry out "Police, police." There was a constable near the Caffè di Commercio, at the corner of Strada Santa Lucia and Strada Reale, who, seeing the prisoner running, arrested him, and took him to the police-station; the name of the constable is Giuseppe Farrugia, if I mistake not. Paolo and I entered the Court-house to know what the man had done. Paolo Pace went up to him to search him, as far as I can remember, when he (the man arrested) put his hand to his breast to give up the knife, which he did, saying, "Do not be uneasy, I am the man who struck Capt. Graves; he killed me and my family, and I wanted to kill him; he hauled up my boat for 15 days." This is all he said. I then left the prisoner, and went to see what had happened to Capt. Graves. Constable Paolo Pace took charge of the knife. The knife is certainly this (*a knife handed to him by the Crown Advocate.*)

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

I do not know whether I am any longer constable. My superior officers can answer this question. I was beaten by some military men, I kicked them, and for this reason I was sent to prison. The case was heard this day week, and I was condemned by the magistrate. Before going on my watch I was here in the Court-house. I had eaten before going on my watch; I drank water. I had not drank wine. I had eaten grapes and cheese. I sometimes drink wine at dinner, and sometimes not. I was accustomed to drink wine, but the scarcity that now exists prevents me from doing so. On that day I had not drank, and I had dined at eleven. I stopped near Millar's shop, to see that everything was quiet in Strada Reale. I did not remain there more than half a minute. The calesse was standing still in front of the secretary's office. I was on the footpath between Strada Reale and Strada Teatro; I was in the middle of the footpath in front of the wall where notices are fixed. I saw the calesse. I do not recollect whether the horse's head was towards Porta Reale, or the other way. I did not pay any attention to it, not knowing what was about to happen. I saw Capt. Graves, as he was getting into the calesse. Near him, there was only the calesse man. I afterwards saw the prisoner; I do not know whether he came from behind the calesse, or from the sides, or whether he came out of the secretary's office. I do not know whether he came out from near the horse, or from the back of the calesse. I do not know whether he came from under the arches or from the secretary's office. I saw him strike the blow, but cannot tell whether to the right or to the left. Pace, when running, was a little in front of me. Being in front of me he had the advantage, but both of us began to run on hearing Capt. Graves crying out "Police, police." Pace was stationed on the square, and was under the Palace balcony. I have already given evidence on this subject before the court of magistrates. I do not recollect on what day, but it was after mid-day.

The *Advocate for the Defence.*—See whether this was your deposition before the magistrate.—The Deposition of Emmanuele Cristina taken by magistrate Dr. Zammit on the 28th of August:

My name is Emmanuele Cristina; my father's name was Vincenzo of Floriana; I am 29 years old; I am police constable, 2d class.

Monday last I was on duty under the arches of the Conservatoria at mid-day precisely, and was to remain so until six o'clock P.M. Shortly after, at about a quarter or half-past twelve, on my way back from the fountain of St. George's-square, at the corner of Strada Reale and Strada Teatro, I observed a calesse still, opposite to the door of the Chief Secretary's office, and at the moment when Capt. Graves, the superintendent, was going to enter the calesse, this man at the bar, whose name I do not know, but I was afterwards told he was a boatman, came forward from about the calesse, but I do not know from what part, and attacking the person of Captain Graves gave a blow, with his right arm, on the abdomen of Captain Graves; I could not see the weapon with which he gave the blow. Instantly, Captain Graves put his hand, or rather both his hands, on his abdomen, and cried "Police, police," and walked after this prisoner, who seeing that he was pursued began to run in the direction of Porta Reale. At the same moment the other constable, Paolo Pace, who was also stationed under the balcony of the Palace which looks towards the square of the Conservatoria, having heard the cry "Police, police," came forwards, and he and I ran after this prisoner, who was running away. This man, as soon as he reached the Caffè di Commercio

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mercio, near the Court-house, was arrested by another constable, Giuseppe Farrugia, who at that moment was passing by, and was taken into the principal police station, just when I and constable Pace arrived. Constable Paolo Pace immediately searched the prisoner, and before he put his hand on him, the prisoner said, "Here, here," and pulled out that knife from the band of his trousers, and handed it to the said constable Paolo Pace, saying, "Yes, I gave him the blow to kill him; he killed me, and I kill him, because he caused my boat to be hauled up for a fortnight." Constable Pace remained with the prisoner, and I went in search of Captain Graves, to see what had happened to him; I found that he had gone to the dispensary opposite St. John's Church. There I saw two medical men whose names I do not know, dressing a wound which Captain Graves had received in his abdomen.

Ant. Zammit,
Magistrate.

his own
Emmanuele + Cristina
hand.

Witness.—Before that time I had never seen the prisoner. I at first took him for a madman, seeing him running, and not knowing what had happened. When I saw the prisoner running, I did not know what had happened. It appears to me that the prisoner wore a shirt of a reddish colour, and pantaloons of either white, blue, or grey colour, I cannot tell; I can say that the shirt was rather of a reddish colour, but I cannot say of what colour the pantaloons were.

No. 10.—Constable *Paolo Pace;* Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I was on duty on the 25th August, from mid-day until four o'clock, I was stationed in Strada Reale and the square. Soon after my watch commenced, I saw a calesse opposite the entrance of the secretary's office. When I passed I saw the calesse man, the man who gave evidence a few minutes ago, with another man, the prisoner at the bar. I said to the calesse man, "Are you happy to-day?" The prisoner was present. The calesse man answered, "Leave me alone;" and the prisoner said, "Yes, he is happy, because the Signore leaves for England to-day." I then went to the corner between Strada Reale, and Strada Teatro. I saw Capt. Graves whilst I was standing at the corner of Strada Reale, and Strada Teatro; I did not see where he entered. I saw him when he came back towards the calesse. After ten minutes I heard a voice crying out "Police," and on turning round, I saw Capt. Graves in the middle of the street, crying out "Police." I saw the prisoner running; I did not overtake him; but Giuseppe, another constable, arrested him at the crossing of Strada Reale and Strada Santa Lucia. I followed him into the station room in the Court-house; I searched the prisoner myself. He, on my searching him, said, "Here, I have this knife; I was going to give it to you." He gave me the knife, and I delivered it to the first-class serjeant, Vincenzo Mifsud. Yes, sir, this is the knife [*a knife handed to him by Crown Advocate*]. I asked no questions of the prisoner; but one of us, after the knife had been taken from him, asked him "What have you done?" "Yes," he answered, "I struck him; he killed me, and I struck him to kill him."

The *Foreman of the Jury.*—You said that you had seen Capt. Graves, and after ten minutes you heard him cry out "Police." From the corner of Strada Teatro, there are not ten minutes distance.

Witness.—After I had seen him he entered the secretary's office.

No. 11.—*Giuseppe Farrugia,* Constable; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

On the 25th August, about a quarter of an hour after mid-day, I was in Strada Reale, and saw a person dressed in white, running, and crying out "Police, Police." I did not recognize him. Another man was running before him, and I arrested him; the man I arrested is here; the prisoner I took to the Court-house. He was searched and a knife was found about his person; the knife was afterwards handed over to the magistrate. Inspector Psaila was then present, who asked him what had happened, and he (the prisoner) answered, "I have heard it said, that he who kills shall be killed. He killed my family; he hauled up my boat for 15 days, and if I have not killed him, I still wish to kill him. My family consists of ten persons, and he has killed us with hunger."

The *Foreman of the Jury.*—Was the knife stained with blood?

Witness.—No; there was no blood on it.

No. 12.—*Giacomo Psaila,* Inspector of Police; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

Capt. Graves was stabbed on the 25th of the last month; it was the same day that the prisoner was arrested; he was arrested immediately after. I was occupied in the office writing, when serjeant Benedetto Calleja came in, and informed me that Capt. Graves had been stabbed. I left my office, and in passing by the station room I said, "Who stabbed him? who stabbed him? Is the man arrested?" The man who is now at the bar then rose from where he was seated, and told me, "Here, here, it was I." He used the Maltese words, "Au, Au, Jen." I then said, "What was it for; what have you done?" The following was his answer, which was written down by me immediately: "I wounded him, and I wanted to kill him; without listening to my reasons, in consequence of certain complaints made against me by a naval officer, who said I had exacted from him more than the tariff allowed for the hire of my boat, he hauled up my boat for 15 days, and thus my family, consisting of ten individuals, was left to starve; and the worst is, that the boat is

in

in so bad a state, that it requires repair. Therefore he who kills, must be killed. He killed my family, I killed him; and if he be not dead, I would kill him, and others will kill me. This is the truth, and do not think I am mad." He said all this of his own accord, and not in consequence of either promises or threats. Many were present at his words; but I remember particularly Serjeant Mifsud, and Serjeant Calleja. In the course of the investigation I exhibited a shirt, a flannel, and a pair of pantaloons. Here they are; they belonged to Capt. Graves; they were taken off his person by Serjeant Calleja. I also exhibited a knife which was taken by constable Paolo Pace.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

I wrote down what the prisoner said. I did not only do so in this particular case; I always do so.

No. 13.—Sergeant *Benedetto Calleja;* Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I was present in the station-room, when the prisoner was brought in arrested. I was present when Inspector Psaila came up to him. A conversation took place between the prisoner and Psaila; it was on the 25th of last month. Inspector Psaila, accosting the prisoner, said, "What have you done?" He replied, "What should I do? I struck to kill him; if he is not dead, say so, because I want to go and kill him, since I hear it said that he who kills must be killed. He has killed me and my family, my children with hunger, and I wanted to kill him." He then added, "And if I have not killed him, say so and send me that I may kill him."

The Inspector then said that his words would be written down. The Inspector then took me with him to Dr. Sammut's dispensary; there we found Capt. Graves. The Inspector ordered me to accompany Capt. Graves to his house and take charge of the clothes he had on him, and I did so; there are the clothes.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

I saw Capt. Graves in Dr. Sammut's dispensary; I entered the dispensary; there were Doctors Sammut, Clinquant, and Felice Calleja. Capt. Graves was seated; I saw Capt. Graves leaving the dispensary; I saw him getting into the calesse; he was assisted into the calesse. I arrived at Capt. Graves' house at the same time as the calesse; I remained a quarter of an hour at his house. During this time he was always in my presence. With the assistance of those about him, he undressed himself. After he had taken off the clothes he had on, I know not what he did, as I only did what I was ordered to do. I knocked at the door; he went up no steps, there being none; he did not go in by himself, but assisted by others, and stooping.

No. 14.—Sergeant *Vincenzo Mifsud;* Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I was present when the prisoner was brought into the station-room; I was present when Inspector Psaila went near him. The Inspector, on hearing that Capt. Graves had been stabbed, ran out, saying, "What is the matter? Have you brought the prisoner?" The prisoner answered, "Here I am,"—Au, Au, Jen. The Inspector then said to him, "What has happened?—what have you done?" and he replied, "Nothing; I killed Capt. Graves, as he killed me and my family." He hauled up my boat for 15 days; if he is not dead, I want to kill him." The Inspector then went to his office. He wrote something, but I do not know what. Below there were myself, Giuseppe Farrugia, Paolo Pace, and Benedetto Calleja.

No. 15.—*Antonio Spagna,* Sergeant in the Port Department; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

On the 25th of August, half an hour after mid-day, I was below in the police-court, and heard that Capt. Graves had been stabbed. I saw a man arrested, who, it was said, was the man who stabbed Capt. Graves. I spoke to him; I asked him, "What have you done?" He answered, "I intended to bid him a good voyage, but I did not do it well."

[It was now half-past one o'clock. The Court adjourned to three o'clock.

The 23d September 1856.—The Court resumed the sitting at 3 o'clock precisely.

The *Crown Advocate.*—Before coming to another series of witnesses, I shall now read the statements made by the prisoner before the magistrate of the police court, in the preliminary investigation. The Crown Advocate then read the following document:—

Examination of the accused *Giuseppe Meli,* taken by Magistrate Dr. *Zammit,* on the 27th August 1856.

The *Court* having explained to and cautioned the accused as prescribed in Article 364 of the Criminal Laws, he said in Maltese:—I have heard from the Court the explanation of the nature of the charge brought against me; I have been cautioned that I am not bound to answer any question, or to criminate myself; and that I can, if I wish, be

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assisted by advocates or legal procurators, and that whatever I may say, can be received in evidence against me. I do not intend to have lawyers to assist me, because I cannot pay them.

The prisoner, being unable to write, has put his mark opposite.

his own
Giuseppe + *Meli*,
hand.

Ant. Zammit,
Magistrate.

Being then questioned by the *Court*, he answered:—My name is Giuseppe Meli; I am 43 years old; I was born at Cospicua; my present residence is in the same city; my occupation is that of a boatman; my father's name is Vincenzo; he is still living.

Being then asked whether he wished to answer to the charge, he said: "After my boat was hauled up for fifteen days by order of Capt. Graves, the Superintendent of the Ports, and after ten days had elapsed, I went to his office and requested him to pardon me the remaining five days. His answer was a refusal. Having then observed that my boat was getting damaged on shore, and that I, being poor, would be unable to repair it, and considering that I was suffering punishment without having committed any fault, and that the effects of such punishment fell not only upon me, but also upon my numerous family, consisting of my wife and children, I became almost desperate, and having almost lost my senses, I committed the offence mentioned in the report. I have to add that Capt. Graves had also, before this, more than once subjected me to punishments.

his own
Giuseppe + *Meli*,
hand.

Ant. Zammit,
Magistrate.

1st September 1856.

The *Court* having explained to the prisoner, in Maltese, the complaint which Capt. Graves, then lying in bed, made on the 25th of August last, the prisoner, notwithstanding he was again cautioned, spontaneously said:—Let me speak; I want to state the fact as it occurred, and I want it to be written down. Monday last, eight days ago, at about a quarter past twelve, Capt. Graves accompanied by a Maltese clerk, a stout man, came up from his office at the Custom-house to Strada Reale, where that clerk separated from him, and went away. Capt. Graves stopped his calesse opposite to the door of an office, the name of which I do not know, and entered that office, where he remained about a quarter of an hour. I had tracked Capt. Graves from the Marina, and while he was in the said office, I talked with the calesse-man, the man who deposed here in this Court, and said to him: "You have to stay with Capt. Graves till two, for I understood he will leave at that hour. You will have now to dine like a thief, for he will take you to his house, and will keep you waiting to convey him to Marsamuscetto where he expects the Alexandria steamer that is to convey him——" I then related to the same calesse-man the injuries which Capt. Graves had done to other people. The calesse-man said he did not like to work with Capt. Graves, because he was not generous. I then lost sight of the calesse-man, and I suppose he left that place to go and buy a cigar. I then placed myself against the wall near the door of the office from whence Capt. Graves was to come out, in order to wait for him. I then saw Capt. Graves coming out; he was on the point of opening the door of the calesse; and he was calling the calesse-man, who had not yet returned. I then, at the moment whilst Captain Graves was entering the calesse, went up to him from behind and pierced him in the abdomen with the knife, which has been produced, and which was then in my hands. Capt. Graves immediately put his hand on his abdomen, and went towards the square of the palace, crying out, "Police, police!" I, however, ran towards the principal station of police; and opposite or near a coffee-house, I met a police-constable, who had stopped to see where the voice was that was calling out "Police, police!" I immediately told him he was calling for me. I am the person, and I betook myself to the police-station, the policeman coming with me. The people who had collected there asked me what had happened. I said to them, as he had killed two families, I want to kill him, and then they will kill me; I in the meantime told the people. With this weapon I killed him, and I myself drew out the knife from my band, which is the one now produced, saying, "With this I killed him;" and gave up the same to a policeman; I do not know whether to a sergeant or a constable. No one saw me give the blow; I could have escaped by turning the corner, and throwing the knife away. I might have denied, but I do not wish to do anything of the sort; I wish to explain and declare the act which I have committed. Capt. Graves was touched in the head, because I hear that he resided near where the madmen are at the Floriana. And if he had not been mad, he would not have hauled up the boats of the boatmen, depriving them of their bread and subsistence without any reason whatever, and without hearing their reasons at all. He had once called me, and ordered me to show him my papers as a boatman. Having placed them in his hands, he tore them up before my face, saying that he did not want me to work, and that I should not even go on the water again.

own
Giuseppe + *Meli*,
hand.

Ant. Zammit,
Magistrate.

Having

Having then asked the prisoner if he had any witnesses to produce, he answered, "I have truthfully stated the whole of the facts; I am therefore not in want of witnesses, nor have I witnesses to produce."

own
Giuseppe + *Meli*,
hand.

Ant. Zammit,
Magistrate.

The *Crown Advocate* addressing the Court.—I am now going to produce medical witnesses. At the beginning of the trial I submitted that it would be expedient to allow the medical witnesses to be present at the proper time. I am strongly of opinion that each medical gentleman should be examined separately; but also, that all the others should be present, especially those medical men summoned on both sides, who never saw Captain Graves wounded, nor his body after death. At another stage of the trial, observations perhaps will be made on the manner in which the wound was treated; and if medical men should be called to give their opinion on what other medical men had done, without having heard the depositions of the latter, I should be under the necessity of making objections, which I am anxious not to make if possible. I desire that the case should be most fully investigated into; and, therefore, I ask that all the medical men be allowed to be present, but to be examined the one after the other.

The *Court*.—There is no objection for the medical gentlemen who did not assist at the *post mortem* examination.

The *Crown Advocate*.—I have now to submit another circumstance. After the period for giving the list of the witnesses had expired, I understood that two medical gentlemen of whom I had no notice before, had seen Captain Graves before his death. They are Dr. Simpson, of whom I heard on the 19th instant, and Dr. Stilon, of whom I heard on the day when I applied for him to be cited as a witness. I believe that the nature of the case is such, that all the medical men who saw Captain Graves in the course of the three days which elapsed between the time that he was wounded, and that of his death, should be examined. At all events, I do not wish to leave any just ground for blame by omitting to produce medical gentlemen who had seen Captain Graves. The law, I believe, permits the production of such witnesses. The law would have been too improvident, if it fixed the terms for giving in the names of witnesses so peremptorily as to make it impossible to produce witnesses not indicated within those terms, though important for the discovery of the truth. I received two notes, one of the 19th instant, and the other of the date of my application for the injunction. By the one I learnt that Dr. Stilon had seen Captain Graves after he received the wound, and before his death; and by the other, that Dr. Simpson had also seen him in the same interval of time. This Dr. Simpson is not the surgeon of the 71st Regiment, but a medical gentleman of the Royal Navy. I ask leave to produce these witnesses.

The *Court* asked the Advocate for the Defence whether he had any objection.

The Advocate said he could have none; but he added that he would at a later period also ask leave to produce witnessess whose names could not be given within the term.

The *Court* granted the leave asked for by the Crown Advocate.

The medical witnesses cited by the Crown Advocate, as well as those cited by the accused, with the exception of those who had assisted at the *post mortem* examination, were then admitted. They were, on the part of the Crown Advocate—Dr. Chetcuti, Dr. Stilon, Dr. Trench, Dr. Cowen, Dr. Weld, Dr. Perry, and Dr. Simpson; and on the part of the accused—Dr. Portelli, Dr. Laferla, Dr. Grech Delicata, Dr. Bonavia, Dr. Adami, and Dr. Grech.

No. 16.—Dr. *Felice Calleja*, Police Physician; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I remember the day when the prisoner was arrested, I spoke to him on the same day, having been requested to see him by Inspector Psaila, in order to see whether he was drunk or insane. I then put some questions to him, and he related to me what he called the unjust treatment he had received from Captain Graves. I talked with him about three quarters of an hour after he had been arrested. I questioned him about his name, his family, his age, and he answered calmly to all my questions. I said to him, "Why have they brought you here?" He answered, "Because I have killed Captain Graves." I then said, "For no cause?" He replied, "No, I killed him, because he killed me; he killed me, and I wished to take his life. He killed me for the world when he took my bread from me, and I determined to kill him." He then added, "I had conveyed an officer to the Rinella in my boat; he detained me for . . . . (I do not remember the time), and when he came back he offered me sixpence. I would not receive sixpence, and offered to take him to the office to see the tariff, because I was entitled to more. He then gave me what I asked of him. The next day I was summoned to appear before the Captain of the Port in his office; and that captain, in the presence of no other man, ordered my boat to be hauled up for . . . . (I do not remember the time). The boat being thus hauled on shore was ruined, and so it is all over with me in this world, because I have no boat. I have a family of eight persons whom I must support; I am a lost man, and I endeavoured to kill him." The prisoner told me the time for which that officer had detained him, and also that for which the suspension of the use of the boat was to last, but I do not remember either. I then told Inspector Psaila to look to that man, and that I wished to examine him on another day, for it did not then seem to me the proper moment. What I have stated occurred

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occurred on the 25th of August. Subsequently, I went and saw the prisoner, in the same prison, on the 27th, and caused him to repeat all he had told me before. What he told me the second time perfectly agreed with what he had told me the first time. I made him no promises. I asked him how he did, and he answered, "Well, because here I have something to eat." I used no threats. He then related to me the unjust treatment he said he had suffered. On my second visit the keeper of the prison was present. I am not aware that he had previously had any conversation with the keeper of the prison.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

I was desired by Inspector Psaila to see the prisoner not to receive those declarations, but to ascertain the state of his mental faculties, to see whether he was drunk or insane. I did not put those questions to see whether he was drunk, but they fell in the conversation I had with him. I said to him, "How do you do," &c., and then I asked him, "Do you remember what you related to me the other day?" I talked with him on different subjects, on his own family, on Captain Graves. He was the first to mention what he had suffered, He said to me, "I have killed him;" and I asked, "For no cause?" To which he replied, "No; but because he did," &c., what I have stated. He stated the same things to others also. He said that the daughters of some boatmen had become public prostitutes, and others went out begging; and all this he imputed to the proceeding of Captain Graves. Those conversations were sufficient for me to form my opinion on the state of his mind. I formed my opinion after having talked with him on those as well as other extraneous subjects. Subsequently, I visited him also, being unwell, at the request of the police. I visited him several times, more than seven times, since my first deposition (before the police court on the preliminary investigation.) I then visited him as a patient. He reasoned well; he said the rosary and other prayers. When he was ill I prescribed that he should not be left where he was, because it was necessary for him to have more air; and I submitted him to diet, for he complained of his head and stomach. I spoke to him every time I saw him. I caused him to change the room. These conversations were not protracted more than a few minutes, except the first, which lasted more than a quarter of an hour. I also put leading (suggestive) questions to ascertain the state of his mental faculties. I asked him, "You said your family consists of eight persons; are they all your children?" And he answered, "Some of them are the children of my sister-in-law." To know the number of persons in one's family, is not enough to show one's mental sanity; but when other questions are also put, from the answers taken together, an inference can be drawn. An insane person is also known from his appearance, from the movements he makes when he speaks, from his laughing. There are lunatics who never laugh; but a professional man, whatever may be the species of the insanity, discovers it after two or three examinations. I was only twice desired to visit him; any subsequent visits took place because he was unwell. He had a kind of dyspepsia, an illness caused by the prison, absence of appetite. He gave no sign of insanity. I had several times received orders from the courts to examine the state of the mental faculties of other persons. The last case was that of the man charged with homicide committed in Alexandria; I think the man is now dead, and several others. I visited the prisoner twice at the request of the police, and from those two conversations I conclude that he was not insane.

The *Crown Advocate* then produced the verbal process of the inquest held on the body of Capt. Graves. It was as follows:—

"Criminal Court of Judicial Police, Malta. The 28th of August 1856. Dr. Antonio Zammit, magistrate.—The magistrate having been informed, through the herein annexed medical report, of the death of Capt. Thomas Graves, Superintendent of the Ports, which took place this day at a quarter to eight o'clock, *ante meridiem*, in consequence of a wound that he had received, as appears from the report of the executive police, presented on the 25th inst., did immediately order an inquest to be held by himself this same day at four o'clock, *post meridiem*. He then went to No. 60, Strada Mercato, at Floriana, that being the dwelling-house of the said Capt. Graves, and there, in the presence of Clemente Bonnici, of the late Antonio, and of Salvatore Magro, of the late Giuseppe, both from Valetta, witnesses called in for the purpose, and in the presence also of Olivier St. John, adjutant of executive police, and Giacomo Psaila, inspector, observed, and directed the others to observe, in the middle of a spacious room, on the right-hand side of the entrance of the said house, a large bed, in the centre of which there was the body of a male person, on the back, having a bandage round the head from under the chin, covered with a white shirt, and with the hands stretched towards the knees, which body Ferdinando Vincenzo Inglott, of the late Giuseppe, and Antonio Fenech, of the late Gaetano, both of Valetta, declared on oath to be that of Capt. Thomas Graves, Superintendent of the Ports, aged 54 years, a native of England. The said body was then placed on two boards in the same room, and there, the same body being stripped, and inspected externally, with the assistance of Drs. Luigi Pisani, senior surgeon in the Central Hospital at Floriana; Felice Calleja, police physician; William Simpson, surgeon of the 71st Regiment; Giuseppe Clinquant, junior physician of the said Central Hospital; Frank Yeates Toms, Royal Navy, assistant surgeon in the Naval Hospital, and Giuseppe Sammut, medical *periti*, nothing was found on the said body of the said Capt. Thomas Graves, except an incised wound in the abdomen on the right side of the navel, distant from the said navel about two inches, length an inch and a half, directed obliquely from above downwards. The post mortem examination

examination (autopsia) was then proceeded with; which the said medical *periti* performed by the section, first, of the cavity of the abdomen, then of the cavities of the thorax and the cranium. In the cavity of the abdomen, it was observed that the extremity of the said wound, inside, was from two to three lines in length, and situated about an inch below the external wound, with adhesion of a part of the small intestine, which was also perforated to the extent of about three lines in a direction corresponding to the axis of the intestine; which wounded part of the intestine was then detached for preservation.

"Inflammation was then observed in the peritoneum, the omentum, and the intestine, with a small effusion of matter.

"It was then observed that the viscera contained in the thorax and the cranium were in a natural state.

"Independent of the said injuries, the said medical *periti* then observed the liver to be in a state of chronical inflammation.

"When the examination was concluded, the said medical *periti* declared on oath that the cause of the death of the said Capt. Thomas Graves was the inflammation of the above-mentioned viscera, which was the effect of the wound of the intestine, as is expressed in their report to which reference is hereby made.

"After the inquest was terminated, the said magistrate declared that the said body might be interred; and, by his order, the present verbal process has been drawn, for the purposes contemplated by the law.

"*Carlo Ermanno Bellanti*,
"Registrar."

"*Ant. Zammit*, Magistrate."

No. 17.—Dr. *Clinquant*, Junior Physician in the Central Civil Hospital; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

On the 25th of August, I was at Dr. Sammut's dispensary. Dr. Sammut was also there. I was there about half an hour after mid-day. While I was there, Capt. Graves came in. He sat down, said to Dr. Sammut, "Dear Dr. Sammut, I am wounded;" and kept one hand on the lower part of his abdomen. His aspect and external general symptoms appeared those of a man labouring under a nervous shock, a rather severe shock. I examined him then, together with Dr. Sammut. Having examined him as well as it was then possible, I immediately dressed his wound by first intention. First intention means, that I tried to bring the corresponding edges of the wound together, by laying across the wound some strips of sticking-plaster, in order to produce cicatrization as soon as possible. The wound was in the lower abdomen; but as to its description, I refer to the report made by us at the request of the Executive Police. Yes, this is the report signed by Dr. Sammut and myself.

The witness then read the following document:—

"We, the undersigned, report that the Honourable Capt. Graves, aged 54 years, an Englishman, has an incised and recent wound in the abdomen, at a distance of about two inches from the umbilicus (on the right side), directed perpendicularly upwards, half an inch in extent, affecting the soft parts below, produced, as it appears, by a piercing and cutting instrument, which wound corresponds as to site and size with two openings in his shirt and trousers. We further declare that the wound is dangerous, owing to the consequences which might ensue.

(signed) "Dr. *G. Clinquant*.
"Malta, 25 August 1856, 12¾ o'clock." "*Joseph B. Sammut*, M.D."

By the words, "owing to the consequences which might ensue," I mean to allude to all such consequences of inflammation and other results as might ensue from the wound itself. In that first inspection, I was not able to form a precise opinion of the extent of the wound, and how far it penetrated, because by its external aperture I could not observe its depth. Even although the wound did not penetrate the abdominal cavities, those consequences may also happen, owing to the relation between the walls of an important cavity and the cavity itself. I was present at the *post mortem* examination, and also saw Capt. Graves when he was dead. I had seen him alive subsequently to his being wounded and dressed; I accompanied him to his house; I placed him in bed; we went to his house in a carriage; I recommended the coachman to go as slowly as possible; I put Capt. Graves in a position which was, as far as possible, adapted to his circumstances; I placed him in bed when in his house; his house is at Floriana; we placed him in bed; we changed his clothes, and I remained with him till about half-past two in the afternoon, and I left him there; that very evening about nine o'clock p.m., I had an opportunity of again seeing Capt. Graves; I found him feverish; he complained of a pain a little below the external wound; he was rather restless; he had frequent desire to go to stool; in short, he was not in the satisfactory condition in which I had left him; about two o'clock he was rather in a satisfactory condition, but when I saw him in the evening I observed all the signs that an inflammation of the peritoneum was taking place; the peritoneum is the membrane which lines internally the cavity of the abdomen; his pulse was feverish; I did not observe his tongue; his general aspect was that of a suffering man; I prescribed something both at two and nine o'clock; about two o'clock, before I left him, I had told the servant not to give him anything, if possible; about nine o'clock I and another medical gentleman agreed that a suitable dose of opium should be given him,

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him, and that a large emollient poultice should be applied over his belly. The opium prescribed was that commonly called "black drops," and we recommenced him to be as quiet as possible. I do not positively know the name of the other medical gentlemen; one of them told me that he was Dr. Simpson, the one who had introduced me; he is not here present; subsequently I had no opportunity of again seeing Capt. Graves alive; after his death I was present at the *post mortem* examination; I signed a report made when the inquest was held; it is this. (*The witness read the following report*:)—

"We, the undersigned, having been summoned by Magistrate, Dr. Antonio Zammit, report that we went to No. 60, Strada Mercato, Floriana, being the dwelling-house of Capt. Graves, aged 54 years, wherein the said Capt. Thomas Graves was lying dead.

"The body having been stripped naked, we observed an incised wound in the abdomen towards the right side of the umbilicus, at a distance of about two inches from the same, half an inch long, directed obliquely from above downwards and from without inwards, penetrating the abdominal cavity, crossing in an oblique direction the parietes of the abdomen from above downwards.

"The cavity of the abdomen having been opened, we observed the internal extremity of the above-mentioned wound to be from two to three lines in length, situated about one inch below the external wound, with an adhesion of a part of the small intestine, which was found to be also wounded to an extent of about three lines in a direction corresponding to the axis of the intestine; which wounded part of the intestine was detached and preserved.

"We further found inflammation of the peritoneum, the omentum and the intestines, with a small effusion of serous matter.

"The other cavities, the cranium and the thorax, having been opened, we observed the viscera therein contained to be in their natural condition.

"Moreover, we found in the cavity of the abdomen the liver in a state of chronical inflammation independent of the above described injuries. We are, therefore, of opinion that the aforesaid wounds have been produced by a cutting and piercing instrument, and that the cause of the death of the above-mentioned Capt. Thomas Graves is the inflammation of the viscera mentioned by us, which inflammation is the effects of the wound of the intestine.

(signed) "Dr. *L. Pisani.*
"Dr. *F. Calleja.*
"*W. Simpson.*
"Dr. *G. Clinquant.*
"*Frank Y. Toms*, R.N.,
Asst.-Surg. Naval Hospital.
"*Joseph B. Sammut.*"

"Floriana, 28 August 1856."

Witness.—The wound, which I had an opportunity of seeing at the time, might have been inflicted by an instrument similar to this (*a knife handed to witness by the Crown Advocate*); we compared it with the clothes which Capt. Graves had on, and we found it perfectly corresponding. The knife was that, or another similar to it. I compared it with these clothes. We found in his trousers an opening corresponding with the wound, and the opening is this; we found another opening in them which did not reach the flesh; I examined the clothes while Capt. Graves had them on. One opening corresponded to the wound, but there was no wound corresponding with the other. I this day confirm that report. The internal wound was examined, and it was observed that it proceeded downwards about an inch. This was owing to the nature of the blow, or to the position in which the wounded person was at the time. In wounds of the abdominal muscles, it is not extraordinary that the external wound does not correspond with the internal wound. This may depend on the nature of the blow, or on its direction; but in this case I cannot say on which of these two causes. We found a small quantity of serous effusion. I think that effusion to have been recent, in consequence of inflammation of the peritoneum. I cannot precisely point out the time when the inflammation of the peritoneum commenced; but from the symptoms, and the pain of which he complained a few hours after the accident, it appears that one would be justified in stating that the inflammation of the peritoneum commenced from that time. They were, however, the first symptoms of inflammation. In my opinion, Capt. Graves died in consequence of the wound described by me.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

When Capt. Graves entered the dispensary, I was talking with Mr. Sammut, and did not see Capt. Graves but when he was already seated. I only saw him seated. When I saw that the state he was in indicated a nervous shock, I caused a small quantity of camphor to be administered to him, in order to calm the nervous system. With the camphor there was a small quantity of syrup, a few drachms, to calm the state of oscillation in which he was at the time. In order to observe and dress the wound we made Capt. Graves lie almost flat. He was in a large easy chair, and we placed him in a horizontal position, in the best way that was possible in the place we were in. A wound, such as I described, saw, and dressed, followed by inflammation, is not absolutely mortal. It admits of recovery, because it may heal, not because it is sure to heal. It may heal; it may not. There are cases of recovery. Wounds in the abdomen, penetrating the small intestine, are very dangerous, but they are not incurable, when not accompanied by hemorrhage or by injury to nerves. Generally speaking, even penetrating wounds

wounds come under the class of curable wounds. I say that they are curable, yet at the same time very dangerous: recovery may take place in such wounds, and they would be more or less dangerous according to their extent, to their being accompanied with wounds of bloodvessels and nerves. In the wound observed by me, we did not observe wounds of large bloodvessels and large nerves, but the wound which we observed was one of small extent, so that only small bloodvessels and nerves had been injured. When I saw Capt. Graves after nine o'clock he seemed to be restless, he was not so quiet as when I had left him the first time. At the moment, he, not knowing the condition in which he was, insisted upon leaving the island, and I advised him not to do so, but to remain quiet, adding that he would incur a heavy responsibility if he were to leave the island. From the time he entered the Dispensary he said that he wished to leave the island, I endeavoured to dissuade him, and at the same time to encourage him by not telling him of the condition in which he really was. When, together with other medical men, I prescribed a certain dose of opium, a poultice on the belly, and quiet. I did not again observe the wound; I did not try to see the dressing again; I ordered him diet, and repeated my injunction to the servant; I do not know whether my orders were attended to; after that evening I visited him no longer. I did not continue to visit him because I saw that he was under the direction of another medical man; I thought my attendance to be of no use, accordingly I withdrew; I think this other medical man was Dr. Simpson. It is not in my knowledge whether the wound had been explored and probed; I heard that it was; I had that information from Mr. Cleugh; Mr. Cleugh said so to Dr. Sammut in my presence. I do not know whether Capt. Graves was put into a bath; I am not informed of the manner in which he was treated after the visit I mentioned, because I saw him no more. I cannot say with precision to what extent the small intestine adhered; I cannot say precisely for what extent and in what part the small intestine adhered. It appeared to adhere to the membrane of the peritoneum; adhesions are all of the same kind; adhesion may be the beginning of cicatrization effected by nature. In the *post mortem* examination the stomach was not examined, nor the whole tract of the intestine; it was not considered to be absolutely necessary to do so. From what we observed on the *post mortem* examination we had sufficient grounds on which to decide; and the stomach and the intestinal tract were not examined, because we did think that examination to be necessary for ascertaining the cause of the death. I do not know whether there were or were not any fluids in the stomach, because it was not opened, and therefore I cannot say what food or drink the deceased had taken. In the *post mortem* examination I did not observe any marks of the probe having been used; no such marks can be seen except when the probe causes a great injury; if used with caution it leaves no marks; we observed no marks whatever; to leave visible marks the probe must be used in a very rough manner. Supposing the probe to have been used, I cannot in this case attribute the death to it; and there are no indications that the results are the effects of the probe. Wounds of the intestines are not absolutely mortal, but they are dangerous, and I declare that the death of Capt. Graves is a consequence of inflammation. Inflammation does not necessarily produce death; it might cure.

No. 18.—Dr. *J. B. Sammut;* Examined by the Crown Advocate.

The day when Capt. Graves was wounded, he came to my dispensary complaining of the wound he had received; he sat down, unbuttoned his trousers, and showed me a wound in the abdomen; Dr. Clinquant was also present; we dressed the wound by first intention, and placed Capt. Graves in a carriage. I went to see him at his house as a friend the next day between noon and one o'clock; he was in bed and complained of some pain, adding however that he felt better. The pain he complained of was in the abdomen, and what he said was, "I am a little better." As I had dressed his wound, and considered that it might be injurious for him to speak or to move I soon went away. This certificate is signed by me, and I still confirm it; this report is also signed by me. I was present at the post-mortem examination; I also still confirm that report. (*For these reports see the deposition of Dr. Clinquant.*) I saw Capt. Graves' clothes and confronted them with an instrument like this (a knife). There were two cuts in the clothes, one on the one side and the other on the other side. One of the cuts corresponded with the wound. The death of Capt. Graves was the consequence of the wound, that is to say, the consequence of the inflammation. I attribute Capt. Graves' death to no other cause. That is my opinion.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

We placed Capt. Graves horizontally in the carriage. I personally recommended the driver to take care and drive slowly. I think the carriage had two horses; but I am not sure of it. I also recommended Capt. Graves to keep as quiet as possible, and in diet. I cannot say whether the diet was observed; for I did not go to his house any more. I heard something about the wound having been undressed; and that the bandage and stripes of sticking-plaster I had applied had been removed; this was the reason why I did not go any more. I was told the name of the gentleman who had removed them; but I do not remember it. It was an English name; I was told so by the Rev. Mr. Cleugh. I was told of the removal of the dressing at about 4 P.M. on the 25th; I believe it was not later than 4 P.M. I was also told that the wound had been probed. On the *post mortem,* I observed no traces of the probe; I have not looked for such traces; the probe leaves none. The use of the probe might disturb the process of cicatrization, and the introduction of air might cause

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cause some inflammation. We observed no cicatrization disturbed, on the *post mortem*. I do not approve of the use of the probe; because, in my opinion, it can do no good, and it might do harm. Supposing that the probe was used in this case, I do not believe that the death could be attributed to it, rather than to the wound, if the probe was used by a surgeon with the usual precautions. We observed no sign of absence of precautions, if the probe was used. On making use of the probe some air might penetrate, and therefore I said it might occasion inflammation. I do not know that Capt. Graves was put in a bath; nor that a purgative was given him. On the *post mortem* an incision was made in the intestine, and some liquid came out; and there was oil in the surface, but I cannot say whether it was purgative oil. We also found some serous matter. The use of the oil could not have caused the death; it might, at most, have caused some irritation. The death was the accidental, not the necessary consequence of the wound. We have seen cases where the patients survived; in some cases death ensues, in others not. It was a very dangerous wound, but not absolutely mortal. Dangerous on account of accidents. I could not give a precise definition of the word accidents; but this is what I mean: the wound was very dangerous, but it might heal. I know nothing of the treatment adopted in the case of Capt. Graves. Death is the consequence of inflammation, and inflammation can be occasioned by bad treatment. In this case, from what I have seen, the death was positively caused by the wound. I do not know that the stomach was examined at the *post mortem*. We did not deem it necessary to examine it; I was present, but the examination was not conducted by me. I should have examined it, to leave nothing undone. I have no reason to alter my opinion in consequence of the stomach not having been examined. The adhesion of the small intestine, which we mentioned in the report of the *post mortem*, was of the same nature as that by which the union in wounds takes place. There is no doubt that such adhesion is the first step towards cicatrization, and healing. Such first step might certainly be disturbed by the rising or moving of the patient, and for this reason absolute immobility, perfect quietude, is recommended.

No. 19.—Dr. *William Simpson*, Surgeon of the 71st Regiment; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I saw Capt. Graves at about two o'clock on the day when he was wounded. On that occasion I was asked to see him as a friend; but at half-past two I was sent for. It was on the same day, the 25th of August, half an hour after the first visit. On my first visit Capt. Graves was in a nervous excited state. I prescribed nothing for him, but recommended him to keep quiet, and that nobody should be admitted into his room to see him. On my second visit, half an hour after the first, Capt. Graves said he felt an intermitting pain in the abdomen; I then examined the wound and probed it. The probe hardly penetrated a quarter of an inch; and I then withdrew the probe. I dressed the wound again, and prescribed an opiate, and warm fomentations for upwards of an hour on the abdomen; and having seen that no relief was afforded thereby, I applied a mustard poultice. All this was not done at the same time; but first the opiate, then the fomentations, and after an hour the mustard poultice. After this last application the pain was relieved. This took place on the first day; the mustard poultice was applied at about four o'clock. I saw Capt. Graves again in the evening between nine and ten o'clock; he was free from pain, and could bear pressure on the abdomen. In this last visit I met other medical gentlemen; we talked together; we had some consultation together, and prescribed another opiate. I saw Capt. Graves in the morning of the next day at nine o'clock; he was asleep, and I did not awaken him. I saw him again after mid-day, and spoke to him; he seemed more calm, but still very nervous; his pulse was quick but soft. I do not remember to have prescribed anything for him on that occasion; he had a pill containing a grain of opium twice. Then I saw him in the evening, between nine and ten o'clock; he was quiet and could bear pressure on the abdomen. I prescribed another opiate; this took place on the 26th.

I saw Capt. Graves on the 27th, and found him with some fever. I prescribed calomel with opium, and a little antimony. I saw him again at about two o'clock, when fever seemed to have left him, and he told me he felt easy. I do not remember having prescribed anything. I was then called between six and seven o'clock of the same day (the 27th) in a great hurry. I found him worse; inflammation had set in. I found that Dr. Stilon had seen Capt. Graves, and that he had prescribed measures which I approved of. He had prescribed a warm bath of the whole body, and mercurials externally, and also internally. As to the internal use of mercurials, I am not sure, but I think he suggested the use of mercurials externally and internally. When Dr. Stilon made those prescriptions I was not present. The external unctions I applied myself. I rubbed mercurial ointment into the groins and arm-pits; leeches were applied, and castor-oil was given him; he had pills containing calomel and opium every three hours during the night; the castor-oil he had taken in the morning; I cannot say the time exactly, I had prescribed it. It was not when I observed signs of inflammation, but when he had fever, that I prescribed the castor-oil. At about 11 o'clock I saw Capt. Graves again; he was much relieved by the bath; he had still some pain, but he was easier. I again saw him at a quarter to seven next morning, and found that he was sinking rapidly. He died at a quarter to eight. This certificate is signed by me.

The witness then read a certificate handed to him by the Crown Advocate, which was as follows:—

"Sir,

"Sir, "Malta, 28 August 1856.

"I HAVE the honour to report to you that Capt. Graves, R.N., died this morning at a quarter to eight o'clock, from the effects of the injury he received on Monday the 25th instant.

"I have, &c.
(signed) "*W. Simpson*, M.D.
"Surgeon, 71st Regiment."

"To F. Sedley, Esq.,
Superintendent of Police, Malta."

Examination continued.—I was present at the *post mortem* examination; I saw the body when it was stripped. I saw a wound distant about two inches from the navel; it was penetrating, with injury to the intestines; it penetrated the peritoneum, the omentum, and the small intestine. I could not possibly have caused the wound in the intestine with the probe, if I had been willing to do so. The probe did not penetrate more than a quarter of an inch, and the parietes of the abdomen are thicker than a quarter of an inch; I was present, and signed the report of the *post mortem* examination. The wounded part of the intestine was adhering to the parietes of the abdomen. From all that I observed, from the first moment I saw Capt. Graves, and during the malady, I attribute his death to the inflammation of the intestine, caused by the wound which he had received; that wound might have been inflicted by an instrument like this (*a knife*).

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

When, half an hour after the first visit which I paid Capt. Graves as a friend, I was sent for, I prescribed about 35 drops of morphia. I was told that the wound which Capt. Graves had received was slight and superficial. I was told so by Capt. Graves himself, who said so, not from his own knowledge, but he was told so by others. He mentioned no medical men, but I understood him to mean that he was told so by the medical gentleman who had first dressed his wound. When I first saw him, the wound was dressed with sticking-plaster, lint, and over the lint a bandage round the abdomen; I believe the bandage was made perfect, according to rules. On my second visit, that is to say, two hours and a half after the wound had been so dressed, I undid the dressing. The reason why I undressed the wound was, because from the pain that Capt. Graves suffered, I thought that some portion of the intestine had become incarcerated between the lips of the wound and caused the pain of which Capt. Graves complained. I used the probe to see whether the wound penetrated into the abdominal cavity; I judged that it did not penetrate. I prescribed diet, mild fluid diet, in small quantities. I cannot say whether it was carried out, but I found no fault. The changes that I observed in his state I did not attribute to non-observance of diet, but to the excitable temperament of the patient. He had an excitable temperament; I was told of it by his friends and relations. I saw no sign that indicated inflammation before the afternoon of Wednesday the 27th. The cataplasm was applied the first day. I formed my opinion that Capt. Graves died of the wound he had received from the general symptoms; he died from the inflammation caused by the wound. When a person receives a wound all his system receives a shock, if a vital part is injured by the wound. I consider a wound like that received by Capt. Graves, at his age, and with his constitution, to be mortal. A wound like that is, in general, held to be one of which cure is an exception. I have read the recent works of Sir Astley Cooper; I have read his treatise on hernia. One of the medical gentlemen with whom I said I had some consultation—I am not sure, but I think—was Dr. Clinquant; but our consultation was a short one. I treated another case perfectly similar to this. I treated other wounds in the abdomen, though not similar to this; some were less, and some more severe. Of the latter, one was caused by a kick of a horse; it terminated fatally.

No. 20.—Dr. *Luigi Pisani*, Senior Surgeon in the Central Hospital; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I was present at the *post mortem* examination on the body of Capt. Graves. I have signed this report (the report of the *post mortem* examination). I again confirm the same. I directed that examination. It was performed in a manner satisfactory to all the medical gentlemen who were present as well as to myself. I do not know that any part of what was necessary to examine was not examined. We examined the stomach externally, and it seemed perfectly empty. If the stomach had been opened, I could not have found in it anything calculated to make me alter my opinion at all, in the case. I certainly believe that the wound in question might have been inflicted with an instrument like this (*a knife handed to witness by Crown Advocate*). When we examined the clothes of the deceased we found a cut, of about half an inch, on the right side, in the shirt, the flannel, and the trowsers, corresponding to the wound; and another cut on the left side, which penetrated the same clothes only. Those cuts might have been caused by an instrument like that (*the knife*).

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

Before we proceeded to the *post mortem* examination we agreed as to how we should conduct it. The report was drawn by me with the assistance of my colleagues. I could not have changed my opinion, if the stomach had been opened. It is not possible that the stomach contained fluids. It was almost crimpled (*appassito*). This can be seen without

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opening the stomach. It was contracted; it could have contained but an exceedingly small, almost imperceptible quantity. I cannot say what may have been the very small quantity of fluids, because I did not open the stomach. The stomach having been found in a healthy condition, it was not necessary to make an incision in it to examine it, the outside of it is sufficient to judge of the pathological state of its internal parts. If there had been any morbose affection inside, it would have appeared from the outside. The wound was incised obliquely, from above, downwards; because in the cavity of the abdomen it was an inch below the external incision. The peritoneum and the omentum are, in substance, the same thing; but anatomists give them different names. The omentum is but a duplicature of the peritoneum. The adhesion of the intestine was of its wounded part; the adhesion was of the nature of those by which union in wounds is produced. That adhesion does by no means alter the case in my opinion, with respect to the cause of the death. The stomach was not inflamed. The liver presented some alteration in its colour and consistency, but in a small degree. That could not have been the cause of the death. As for that, Capt. Graves might have lived 20 years more or upwards. I do not consider the wound in question to have been absolutely mortal; but very dangerous. In the greater number of cases, such wounds terminate fatally; but there are cases followed by recovery. In the books you find many cases followed by recovery, and not so many that end fatally, because fatal cases are not so often recorded.

No. 21.—Dr. *F. Y. Toms*, R.N., Assistant Surgeon in the Naval Hospital; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I have signed that report (of the *post mortem* examination). I was present at the *post mortem* examination. I observed a wound on the right side of the abdomen, penetrating the intestines. I thought it was produced by a knife, pointed and cutting. I think it might have been produced with an instrument like this (*a knife handed to witness by Crown Advocate*); I attributed the death of Capt. Graves to the consequence of the wound produced by the knife. I continue to be of the same opinion; that the death was the consequence of the wound.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

The inflammation was caused by the wound—naturally caused by the wound; I believe that a wound like the one in question, produced by such a knife as that, must necessarily produce inflammation; and I believe that such inflammation is seldom curable, if ever; generally such an inflammation causes death; it does not appear to me that the inflammation in this case could have been produced by other causes; I had not seen the wound before the *post-mortem* examination; I was licensed by the Royal College of Surgeons in England, not as a physician, but as a surgeon.

Dr. *Felice Calleja*, Police Physician, recalled and Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I confirm this report (the report of the *post mortem* examination). The wound might have been produced by a knife like this (*the knife, &c.*)

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

On the *post mortem* examination we found liquids in the cavity of the peritoneum; it was some serous matter produced by the inflammation; having made some incisions in the intestines some oil came out; I cannot say what kind of oil it was; we made those incisions to give way to the air in the intestine; then extravasation took place; there were coloured matters; I cannot say what they were, but there was oil; we did not open the stomach; from the outside we could see that it was not voluminous, and that it was in a very healthy state; it might have contained some liquid; when the person charged with the duty of making a *post mortem* examination has discovered the cause of the death, it is not necessary, in my opinion, for him to open the stomach; I found no traces of the use of a probe; I looked for such traces because it was rumoured that the wound internally had been caused by a probe; the introduction of a probe by an experienced surgeon cannot cause death; a probe is obtuse; it cannot wound unless one gives a very strong blow with it; the inflammation in the case was rather produced by the wound; there was no extravasation of other matters before those incisions were made in the intestine; there was nothing besides the wound which might have produced that inflammation; inflammation when taken in time might cure; formerly all such wounds were considered mortal; at present they are not considered so; I had similar cases, and I sent them to the hospital; but I believe all ended fatally.

No. 22.—Dr. *Chetcuti*, Physician and Surgeon to the Lunatic Asylum, and to the Lazzaretto; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I saw Capt. Graves about eight hours after he was wounded; I visited him as a friend; the state in which I found him was as follows:—respiration hurried; pulse intestinal and quick; I counted the pulse; the beatings were from 170 to 175 a minute; besides that, cold perspiration and great anxiety; such a state might have been ascribed to the moral shock, as well as to an incipient inflammation; but, on reflection, having remained near the patient about three quarters of an hour, I attributed it to an incipient inflammation, considering that if it had

had been produced by the moral shock, it would have ceased before with the means which had been adopted; my observations, upon the whole, led me to believe that that case would end fatally, and that Capt. Graves would not live longer than one or two days; such was then my opinion; I expressed it to some friends of mine; I formed that opinion eight hours after Capt. Graves had received the wound; I have now heard the report of the medical gentlemen who conducted the *post mortem* examination, as well as the deposition of the medical gentlemen who principally attended Capt. Graves, and I find sufficient reason to confirm my original opinion.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

When I saw Capt. Graves I did not inspect the dressing of the wound; I formed my opinion, without having examined the wound, on the symptoms taken together,—heat, anxiety, the state of the tongue, &c., &c.

No. 23.—Dr. *Saverio Stilon*, Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I visited Capt. Graves the day before his death at about five o'clock in the evening; on examining him I observed the abdomen and I found it swollen, with appearance of extravasation of blood in the cellular tissue (between the skin and the integuments), which gave a marbled appearance to the abdomen; I found on the right side of the navel two pieces of sticking plaster which I was told covered a wound; Capt. Graves complained of severe pain about two inches or two inches and a half below that wound; that was the same place where the pain had originally begun, and whence it had extended to the rest of the abdomen; I felt the pulse, it was frequent, small, but hardish; it beat about 150; the tongue was dry, and red at the edges; the respiration was oppressed; no movement of the abdomen, and great movement of the thorax; there was, in fact, what is called thoracic respiration; the calorification was disturbed; the extremities rather cold; his mental faculties were clear; having been requested to give my opinion on the whole of the symptoms, I said that I believed there was inflammation of the peritoneum caused, judging by the report I had, by a wound; I was not the medical man in attendance upon Capt. Graves, but having been asked my opinion on the consequences, I said I considered the case to be very serious and of imminent danger; and having been asked by the relations of the patient about the remedies to be applied, I said I could not say anything in the absence of the medical attendant; but the said relations having insisted upon having my opinion, I caused another person to write that, in my opinion, the case being as I have just described, it was necessary to apply leeches on the painful part; mercurial unctions to diminish the plasticity of the fluids which, in such injuries, generally effuse; emollient poultices on the abdomen, and should the same state, the same pain, persist, to put the patient in a tepid bath in order to soothe the symptoms; I recommended, however, that nothing should be done until the arrival of the medical attendant; it was subsequently reported to me that the medical attendant had approved of my suggestions, and put them into execution; I also saw Capt. Graves the next morning, but he was dead; from all that I have heard of the treatment of Capt. Graves, and especially from the depositions of the medical gentlemen who executed the *post mortem* examination, I find no reason for attributing the death of Capt. Graves to other causes than the wound; the parts inflamed in consequence of the wound, and the inflammation caused the death.

No. 24.—Dr. *Trench*, Staff Surgeon, 2d Class; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I have not heard Dr. Simpson's deposition, but I have heard those of the other medical gentlemen. From what I have heard, I am of opinion that the death of Capt. Graves was in consequence of peritonitis caused by a wound injuring the small intestine. Peritonitis generally causes death in cases of wounds of the intestines.

(The witness was not cross-examined.)

No. 25.—Dr. *Cowen*, Staff Surgeon, 1st Class; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I heard the depositions of the greater part of the medical gentlemen who have deposed. I heard the description of the wound in question. There can be no doubt that the death of Capt. Graves was caused by that wound.

Cross-examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

Wounds of the intestines are generally mortal, of themselves; especially on persons advanced in years, and of a certain constitution.

No. 26.—Dr. *Weld*, Surgeon of the 47th Regiment; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I was present when Dr. Simpson was giving his deposition, and I also heard the deposition of another medical gentleman, a Maltese. From what I heard, I am of opinion that Capt. Graves died from inflammation of the peritoneum, the result of the wound.

(The witness was not cross-examined.)

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No. 27.—Dr. *William Perry*, Surgeon, Royal Artillery; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I heard the deposition of Dr. Simpson and those of other medical gentlemen who deposed here. I attribute the death of Capt. Graves to inflammation of the peritoneum, caused by a penetrating wound in the abdomen.

(The witness was not cross-examined.)

No. 28.—Dr. *Simpson*, R.N., Surgeon in the Naval Hospital; Examined by the Crown Advocate.

I heard the depositions which have been given. I attribute Capt. Graves's death to inflammation caused by the wound he received in the abdomen.

The Crown Advocate.—This is the evidence for the prosecution. I wish, however, that the witnesses should understand, that the case is not yet concluded, and that they must appear again to-morrow morning at nine o'clock: I allude to all the witnesses, medical gentlemen included.

The Court gave order, warning all the witnesses to appear again the next day at nine o'clock A.M.

[The Court, at half-past eight o'clock, P.M., adjourned till next morning at nine o'clock.

Sitting of Wednesday, 24th September.

Advocate *Grungo* for the defence said—The grave indictment brought against the prisoner, the zeal shown yesterday by the Crown Advocate, during a whole day and a good part of the night, and on the other hand the duty assumed by me, to defend the prisoner, make it bounden on me, gentlemen, imperatively force me to recur to you, trusting that, with your good sense, with your impartiality and independence, you will make up for all the faults and omissions in my defence. Gentlemen, a very serious charge is laid before you; a wilful homicide is in question, which, it is said, has been committed by the man at the bar, who stands there to be judged by you. It will be your duty, gentlemen, to declare whether the prisoner is or is not guilty of the crime imputed to him. If you, after what you have heard, and, notwithstanding what you will hear, should (I trust not) find him guilty, and declare his guilt, you certainly will have performed your duty. But such duty thus performed is an awful one. It is more than awful. But if, on the other hand, after what you have already heard and what you will hear, you shall find him not guilty, or give the necessary explanations to the various circumstances, you will also do your duty, and such is a pleasant duty, an agreeable duty, a very consolatory one. Those who know what human nature is now will tell you, that the first mentioned duty is not exempted from great anxieties, and is accompanied by a thousand doubts and uncertainties; whereas, the other duty puts aside all doubt, every uncertainty, and gives tranquillity, contentment and calmness to the mind. But you know your duty; when your country, the laws, and chance have confided the charge on you of declaring the guilt or innocence of your fellow creatures; you know your duty.

I now at once refer to the indictment. This indictment declares that Giuseppe Meli is guilty of voluntary homicide (indictment read). I consider, gentlemen, that this indictment might have been framed in a clearer manner, in a more concise manner, better conducive to the facts submitted to you. It appears to me, that in some manner its meaning is kept in suspense, it contains a number of useless words as to the facts upon which you are to judge. In fact, by saying that Giuseppe Meli inflicted a wound, in consequence of which Capt. Graves died, and adding immediately after, that Giuseppe Meli inflicted a wound, and that such wound caused the death of Capt. Graves, is a repetition of the same sentiment, and conveys the same idea; it is adding a number of words without any necessity. But let us lay aside these observations. I should have merely wished that the indictment, the basis of the whole trial, had been framed in a manner more conducive to the facts submitted to you. But let us consider the indictment on its own merits. The indictment, although not in very clear and precise terms, contains the nature of the crime in a general and specific manner. It is said, a crime has been committed; and this is the first part, or the crime stated generally. The author of that crime is said to be the prisoner, and this is the second part, or the crime specifically stated. I must submit to you certain circumstances, as well on the crime generally, as on the crime specifically considered, inasmuch as the one and the other must be the subject of your declaration. That Capt. Graves was wounded in the abdomen is an incontrovertible fact. That Capt. Graves expired on the 28th of August last, is unfortunately also an undeniable fact; and I would be a sceptic were I to deny such facts. But, that that wound was inflicted by the prisoner, remains to be seen and to be examined. That that wound had absolutely of itself caused the death of Capt. Graves, in such a manner that Capt. Graves, after receiving that wound, must have died from the effects of the same, so that the person who inflicted the wound should rather be considered to have committed homicide than a wound; whether guilty of homicide and not of wounding is also a fact to be considered. These are the outlines of my defence, which I intend to make as simple as possible, and to the utmost of my limited abilities. I should wish, gentlemen, that you would divest yourself of any predisposition, and I concur in this with the Crown Advocate, who, yesterday, was unable to dissemble that some predisposition and sympathy might perhaps be found to exist amongst you. If

you

you felt any sympathy yesterday, you may now feel antipathy, caused perhaps by what you have heard. But suspend your judgment; let us lay aside what you have heard against the prisoner; let us see what can be said in his favour. Let us see whether his defence can be conducive to a better demonstration of the facts. A wound was inflicted on Captain Thomas Graves, it is said, on the 25th August 1856 last. Was it inflicted by the prisoner? Is he the author of this wound? A grand array of evidence was produced before you on this point. Men, not very clear minded, would have said that the evidence produced against the prisoner amounted to a proof to a certainty. But let us examine whether such proof and such certainty exist, as to induce you to declare freely on your conscience, and from moral conviction, that Giuseppe Meli is the man who wounded. Let us examine this grand array of evidence, on hearing which it would seem that there was nothing more to be said. But much remains to be said, a great deal to be said; and many things said by the Crown Advocate, it would have been better for the prosecution if they had never been said. It appears to me that the proofs of the Crown Advocate may be reduced to three kinds of proofs. Evidential proof, conjectural and indicative proof, and proof derived from the confessions of the prisoner made before the court of magistrates, and communicated to those witnesses you have had the trouble of hearing. It appears to me, that as to the author of the presumed homicide or wound, there are only three species of proof. I speak at present only of the person who wounded; who that person was, because the other proofs, as those of the Doctors Periti, &c., I will speak of in the second part. Allow me to speak first of the evidential proofs. All the witnesses produced by the Crown Advocate, as far as regards the author of the wound, or regarding the confession made by the prisoner to those witnesses who have deposed, or the act of wounding. You have therefore heard witnesses who spoke of the confessions made to them by the prisoner, of his having committed the crime, and on this point a series of evidence was produced, and you have heard witnesses who not only spoke of the confession, but of having seen, or of having been present at the commission of the crime. Let us now speak of the witnesses who deposed as to the confession. You have heard a number of witnesses, the greater part of whom, even all, belong to the Executive Police, who have deposed that the prisoner declared that he committed the crime of having wounded Captain Graves. I submit to your wise consideration, that we have a repeated confession made by the prisoner himself before the magistrate in the preliminary proceedings. The prisoner twice declared having committed the crime; this was written down by the magistrate; it was read by the Crown Advocate. Therefore, if we have the confession made by the prisoner before the magistrate, what necessity was there for all the witnesses produced by the Crown Advocate to prove the same confession? You will rely on the deposition made by the accused to that confession taken down by the magistrate, to that high confession which was read; or you will rely on the confession which the witnesses said they had heard from the prisoner. But it would be better to rely on the confession made by the prisoner before the magistrate than on that repeated by the witnesses. Because, if you were for a moment to rely on the confession made by the prisoner before the magistrate, you would rely on the prisoner's own words, the declaration made by himself, and not in words conveyed through another channel by means of others. But if you rely on the deposition of the witnesses, of those constables who spoke of the confession, you would rely on what others repeated. And when any conversation takes place, when the very words can be had from the mouth of the person who uttered them, because he said them himself, and they were written down, one ought not to rely on what is heard from others on those expressions said to have been used by the prisoner to other persons. But as to the weight of all these confessions, both as regards those written down and made by the prisoner, as well as those heard by the witnesses, I will shortly address you. I now mention the subject in order that you might consider, that when we have the confessions made by the prisoner himself, and written down, we have the very words of the prisoner spoken by himself; but confessions repeated by other witnesses are all useless when we have his own words. It is useless bringing a number of constables, an innumerable series of witnesses, witnesses who heard, and at the moment took the trouble of writing down what they had heard. There are persons who have deposed very important words worthy of your serious consideration, and from the manner they were uttered, it appears to me that if we examine our conscience, if an honest man consults his conscience, he must perceive that it is a very difficult matter. With reference to the witnesses who deposed on the wounding, I must call your notice to an important circumstance I would consider as evidence, and I think that as such it should be taken into serious consideration; it is what is called Captain Graves's complaint. The Crown Advocate has read to you all the documents existing in the process, but the declaration of Captain Graves has not been read to you.

By the *Judge*.—The Crown Advocate said that he wished he could have produced that document, but he was not allowed to do so; and the Court in fact declared that its production could not be allowed.

Advocate *Grungo*.—It will perhaps be said that this declaration of Capt. Graves was not received in due form. But what does it matter to us? Whose duty was it to receive such deposition in due form? The prisoner's? Or the duty of the party that ought to have produced the strongest proof,—the Executive. The complaint of Capt. Graves positively exists; it was doubtless signed by him, and by the magistrate Zammit, whom I have summoned. Why was it not exhibited by the public prosecution? This document positively exists; and you must bear it in mind. You must turn all your attention to this document, which, it is said, has not been received in due form, and God only knows why it was allowed to be

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proceeded with without having been taken in due form. And what does this document contain?

By the *Judge*.—That document cannot even be produced by you. It is not framed in a manner to permit its reception as legal evidence.

Advocate *Grungo*.—But it is favourable to the defence.

By the *Judge*.—If you reflect properly, you will perhaps find that it is not so, without at present producing the document in question, you may say what you think expedient as regards its contents. And at the proper time, on producing your witnesses, its production may be again asked for, if necessary. Reflect, however, as to the responsibility you will assume.

Advocate *Grungo*.—On the 25th August last, the late Capt. Graves said these words on oath to magistrate Zammit; "I saw myself attacked by a man unknown to me, whom I would recognise on seeing, who inflicted two stabs on me; with one he tore my clothes, with the other he caused the wound I bear." These are the contents of the document which I cannot read, as the Court prevents me from doing so. I give you these words as positive, so that you can rely on the arguments I shall deduce therefrom; and if you do not find them expressed in such a manner, it will remain for you to judge.

You must remark that Capt. Graves said, that he had been attacked by a man unknown to him. Is the prisoner at the bar the man unknown to Capt. Graves? No; therefore the prisoner at the bar is not the person who wounded. "By a man unknown to me." He said it himself; "I was attacked by a man unknown to me." The prisoner was not unknown to the late Capt. Graves, therefore the prisoner is not the offender. And this is the proof that was said to be advantageous to the public prosecution. I say it is to my advantage, because the very man who was attacked at mid-day, who died on the 28th, after he had been attacked on the 25th, declared that the man who assaulted him was unknown to him. He was unknown to him. He said it himself. I said that the prisoner was not unknown to Capt. Graves. I will prove it to you by the evidence produced by the Crown Advocate. You already know that he was not unknown to him.

Luigi Aloisio, the first witness produced, deposed, that the prisoner at the bar had been brought before the late Capt. Graves, who remitted him to the magistrates. We therefore know that the man was reported to Capt. Graves for a transgression, or rather a contravention. That man was brought before Capt. Graves to be judged, but he ordered his subalterns to have the charge taken before the magistrates. The said Aloisio further said, that this man was also brought before Capt. Graves, in consequence of a complaint made against him by an officer, with reference to a trip. Capt. Graves asked that man whether he had actually demanded ten-pence, who answered—Yes. He also asked him, if he had been occupied an hour, and was answered, "More than an hour; an hour certainly." He further asked him. "But supposing he kept you an hour, do you know the tariff?" And he was then condemned to have his boat hauled up for 15 days. All this was related by the witnesses for the prosecution. A long coeversation took place between Capt. Graves and the prisoner. It was on the 7th of August; a day not far from the 25th, the day Capt. Graves was wounded. The name of the prisoner and the number of his boat are written in that book by Capt. Graves himself, and Capt. Graves' handwriting was proved by Mr. Fenech and Mr. Inglott. He knew his name and nickname, and he knew him personally. He saw him and spoke to him for some time on the 7th of August. How is it then he declares "unknown to me"?

Francesco Romolo, produced by the Public Prosecution, confirms the above deposition as to the fact of the prisoner having been rought before the deceased for the same complaint made by the officer; and the Crown Advocate has proved to me that the prisoner was known to Capt. Graves; therefore, the wounder is not the prisoner at the bar. But what does he (Capt. Graves) further say? He says, "I saw myself attacked by a man unknown to me, whom I would recognise on seeing him." He was stabbed on the 25th, and died on the 28th. He declared that he would have recognised the wounder on seeing him, still the prisoner was not taken before him. He said that he would have recognised him, although unknown to him; still the best proof is neglected, the supposed wounder is not taken before the wounded man. Can you decide when the best proof is wanting, and which is not brought forward because it was not thought proper to bring it, and which ought to be brought before you. We have a solemn declaration of the deceased, although not *in articulo mortis*. Why were not the witnesses examined before Capt. Graves's death? On the same day that he was wounded, he said that he would have recognised the wounder; Capt. Graves might have then said, "This is the wounder;" he might have said, "He resembles the wounder." Hence there is a field of difficulties. He might have said, "He is not the wounder;" and there would have been an end of it. This would have been the best proof; why was it not brought? It ought to have been brought, and it could have been brought. Capt. Graves died on the 28th August; and on the 28th August, Constable Cristina is taken before the magistrate, and says, "I saw him strike a blow." It would appear that this witness was kept in reserve! Had the prisoner been taken before Capt. Graves, all question might have been at an end; but no, Cristina saw him. But Cristina does not depose before Capt. Graves's death takes place; he deposes the very day Capt. Graves dies. For what reason?

It is said that the declaration of Capt. Graves is of no weight, because it is not drawn in due form. But what does it matter? The declaration in question was signed by Capt. Graves; he made it on his oath; it was received by the magistrate. You must be aware of these circumstances; and you must declare, and declare according to your moral conviction, according to your conscience. What would your conscience dictate? How can

you

you decide, when in want of the best evidence, of the evidence which could have been procured, which ought to have been procured, and which they did not wish to procure? I say, that if there were a sufficient, even a positive, reason for declaring that the prisoner has wounded Capt. Graves, still, in the want of the best evidence, you cannot absolutely declare that the prisoner is the wounder.

We have heard two depositions of witnesses as regards the wounding, and the occurrences immediately after such wounding; the deposition of the calesse-man Pace and the deposition of Cristina.

Pace, the calesse-man, said nothing against the prisoner. The calesse-man stood near the calesse, waiting for his master; but still he does not depose nor mention one circumstance against the prisoner. This man had also deposed before the magistrate, as you have heard, for the Crown Advocate read the deposition he had made in that court; he said before that Court, "I cannot say that the prisoner is the wounder, as I was stooping." And here he deposed to the same effect. He said he felt a sort of a push; that Capt. Graves cried out, "Police, Police;" but he also said that he did not see the wounder. Thus the deposition that regard the wounding is insignificant, as it leads to nothing.

We have the deposition of Emmanuele Cristina—of that constable who does not know whether he is or is not any longer a constable—Emmanuele Cristina, on the 25th August, at mid-day was stationed under the arches. Whilst on such duty he went to the Fountain of St. George's-square towards Strada Teatro, for the purpose of drinking. I cannot understand how a man can become thirsty in less than a quarter of an hour after he has been placed on his watch; but supposing him to have been thirsty, it was not necessary for him to go to the fountain and abandon his post. It is well known that during the month of August a number of men sell water about the streets for two grains, and he might have obtained water certainly from those men, who are stationed under the arches. I do not consider thirst a good reason for abandoning his post. As long as Cristina was at his post nothing happened; he abandons it, goes to the fountain, and nothing happened; he returned to his post, still nothing happened. He had hardly reached the corner of Strada Reale and Strada Teatro, when—remark the extraordinary coincidence—all happens. He sees the blow struck, and everything takes place. These circumstances do not, in my opinion, happen twice in a thousand years. It appears to me that a witness who deposes to exonerate himself is positively an interested witness. Cristina does not know whether he is still a constable. He said, "I believe I am still a constable." How is this? he does not even know what he is; he knows everything, and he knows nothing. Therefore this witness deposed, not only to exonerate himself, but to exonerate the whole body to which he belongs, or did belong. A crime took place in Strada Reale about mid-day, without any of the police being present, without its being prevented or even seen by the police. It would be a very extraordinary event, under a mid-day sun, to find a crime perpetrated in the centre of Strada Reale, a street always crowded, and with shops full of people? and nothing is foreseen, and nothing is seen by the police? It would have been a great disgrace to Cristina who was keeping watch opposite the archway; and the act took place in front of the square he was watching. It would have been a shame for the police, that instead of preventing the crime they did not even see it, although committed at mid-day. But it could not be said that Cristina saw the crime committed from under the archway, since I can prove to you he was not there. From where he was stationed he ought to have seen the crime committed, and would have seen it had he been there. He could not see it; he could not say he had seen it, as he was not there. It was therefore necessary that he should see it from another place, and he saw it by mere chance. Whilst under the archway all was quiet; he drank, and all was quiet. He returns; it would appear that the wounder was waiting for an eye witness, for immediately on Cristina's appearance the wounder committed the crime in question. A man who abandons his watch for the futile object of drinking water, which he might have had from the watermen, who are always under the archway; for two grains he might have had as much water as he wanted; ought such a man to be believed? ought a coinciding witness, who said he saw the blow struck, be believed? This man who saw everything, and saw all by chance, did not see whence the wounder appeared; he does not know from what side of the calesse the wounder came. He cannot say in what position the calesse was; whether the horse's head was towards the square or towards Porta Reale; he knows nothing of all this; he sees everything, excepting what he might have seen most. He sees the blow struck, and does not know whence the wounder came, whether from the right or from the left; whether from under the archway or from the secretary's office. He further says, "I saw a blow struck;" but as I have already said, Capt. Graves, on making his complaint declared, "two stabs were inflicted on me; with the first my clothes were torn, and the other caused the wound I bear." They therefore do not agree. Cristina says one blow was struck, and the other says two. It will be said that it is immaterial whether one or two blows were struck, it being beyond doubt that the wound was inflicted. And I would answer that, in the case of only one substantial witness, who says he saw the blow struck, and who in an important circumstance does not relate in a regular manner what took place, such witness ought not to be believed.

Further, Cristina, who saw the blow struck, stood where he was without moving; he saw Capt. Graves put his hand to his abdomen, to his belly, to the wound, still he does not move to assist him; he remains stationary. This Cristina, who hears Capt. Graves cry out "Police, Police," does not move; and when he sees the other witness, the other constable Pace running, he also runs, and both run after the wounder; Cristina witnessed the whole, as if he were a statute of marble or bronze, without running to prevent the offence. He might

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might not have prevented it, but at least he ought to have run to the assistance of Capt. Graves, who had put his hand to his abdomen, crying out "Police, Police." He only ran on seeing Pace do so, and enters the station-house; and after having gratified his curiosity by hearing the prisoner's confession, he runs to Dr. Sammut's dispensary to learn what had become of Capt. Graves. Rather late, Mr. Cristina! rather late!

I appeal to your conscience, gentlemen, to your probity, to your independence. No, we have no proofs that the prisoner is the wounder; he was known to Capt. Graves. What can be said against this complaint? What can be presumed therefrom against the accused, as it has been, to my great regret, mentioned; we merely have the want of the best proof, which cannot be imputed to us. Capt. Graves says that the prisoner is unknown to him, and in the meantime, whilst he might have been recognised by him had he been brought before him, still he was not.

You have Pace's deposition, which amounts to nothing; you have Cristina's deposition, which also amounts to nothing; and I am anxious to hear from you whether this deposition is to be taken into consideration.

I also said that the Crown Advocate attempted to prove the guilt of the prisoner, by means of witnesses of whom we have not yet spoken, both by conjectures and indications.

I say that the conjectures and indications above mentioned are absolutely insignificant; they do not constitute the primary proof. The statement in fact that the prisoner ran and fled away, is saying nothing. I say that he ran in order to make the confession, on which I will address you. A knife was produced; the medical gentlemen said that that knife might have caused a wound similar to the one in question, but the possibility of doing so does not amount to the fact of its having done so; that it might have done so is a possibility. It is known that knives are alike, it is also known that knives are similar and of the same workmanship; it is known that it can never be said with certainty this wound was inflicted with this, and not with that knife. When the prisoner gave up the knife it was stained with blood, as resulted from a question put to a witness, and if I remember well, the witness Farrugia. When the question was put whether that knife had really been stained with blood, he answered no. When the knife was given up it was mid-day, the usual dinner hour. It was very probable that a man who dines in shops or at the corners of streets, as men in the station of life of the prisoner do, should have a knife; in fact a witness who deposed before the magistrate, and who was not produced before this Court, said that that knife served offensively and defensively, and also for cutting bread; this was said in the preliminary proceedings: therefore, as I said, a man in the prisoner's station of life is likely to have had a knife for cutting bread. If we are to consider indications and conjectures, how many are there in favour of the prisoner! Indications of an irregular proceeding held against the prisoner. I consider it my duty, under the existing circumstances, to leave nothing unnoticed; and should I say anything which I have no right to say, the Court will be pleased to tell me.

The *Judge*.—You say what you consider expedient to say; but the responsibility of what you say must rest on yourself.

Advocate *Grungo*.—We have before us, gentlemen, a declaration made by Dr. Clinquant on the 25th August; the report of the medical men present at the *post mortem* examination, and a report of Dr. Felice Calleja. These reports, these documents were not certified when they were exhibited, for which reason the Crown Advocate sent them back to the magistrate for the purpose of their being certified. It will be said that they were rectified in the presence of the prisoner, but what does the prisoner know of certificates, of law, and of procedure?

Having addressed you on the proofs and conjectures, I will now speak of the confession, as well of the confessions made by the prisoner before the magistrate, as of the confessions made by the prisoner, and repeated by the constables—by those witnesses whom you have heard.

The Crown Advocate attempted and interested himself to prove that the prisoner was by his own confessions the author of the wound.

I submit to you, that the confession of the prisoner should not be in the least way considered by you. I submit to you, that these confessions can have no weight against the prisoner.

I am aware, gentlemen, that any confession of the accused can be received as proof against him. This is admitted by law. You are not ignorant of this, nor could I keep it from you, as others would inform you of it. But when it is said, that any confession may be received as proof, you are not under the necessity, nor are you compelled to receive it as proof, but it remains for you, on your conscience, to accept or refuse such proof; yes, it depends entirely on you. You are to judge, whether this confession is or is not to be received as proof. You cannot be compelled to accept it as such; it rests within your power. Let us now see if good sense, if a good criterion, can ever induce one to accept a confession as a proof. Whether men of sound mind would put faith in an individual, who would depose against himself, who would wish his own death, who would co-operate for his own destruction. Let us see whether your conscience will allow you to put faith in such confessions. These confessions form an exception to the general rules. No one bears evidence against himself. We all wish our own good; we all wish to preserve ourselves; we are all actuated with an instinct of self-preservation. It is said, that he who deposes against himself is an exception to the rule. A man who does not care for his life, who does not feel the instinct of self-preservation. A man who absolutely seeks his own destruction—a suicide. And do you wish to put faith in him? Will you help a man to kill himself? This is a most serious matter. He who does not feel the instinct of self-preservation is an unreasonable

unreasonable man. And can a proof be inferred from the deposition of an unreasonable man? Whoever speaks against himself, does so for some interested motive. Whoever accuses himself of a serious, or very serious crime, the consequences of which are not only of no advantage to himself, but of great disadvantage, such as death? Is such a man reasonable? Is he a man to be believed? He wished to die; he was tired of life. The courage of killing himself failed him, and he confessed a crime he had not committed. It is said, he committed the crime because he admitted it. This confession, far from being a proof against him, against the person who makes it, constitutes only a proof in his favour, in consequence of his unreasonableness. Since he who acts thus, acts in a worse manner than the very brutes themselves; so that the instinct of self-preservation is wanting in such a man. Every one looks to his own life, and he who does not do so, is an unreasonble man. I might have asked for a declaration of madness in this case, but we have the fact itself before us—what more can we want? What can you want further than his own deposition, to be certain of his unreasonableness? And do you know how this man reasons? He says, "You who hear me, know that I have committed that crime. Worthy magistrate, let me speak, write down what I say, hand it down to the remotest posterity." And is this the language of a reasonable man? The magistrate admonished him; the consequences of his words were pointed out to him; he answered, "Let me speak; I wish to explain what took place—write down." And do you know how he closed his narrative? He said, "Capt. Graves was a little cracked, as he lives at Floriana, near the madhouse." Is this to be called reasoning? He says he committed a crime; he says that Captain Graves was mad, and you call this reasoning? And must you put faith in these words? In words that show a tendency to a homicidal monomania? I might prove to you many caprices, freaks, and strange actions committed by him. But I will put aside all such things; you have the fact before you, which is sufficient. He is absolutely inclined to self destruction; he wants to die. There are some who consider death a blessing. There are others who have not the courage to kill themselves. This is what he says, "I have committed a crime. I have killed, therefore I ought to be killed." I might quote facts of men having made similar confessions, and it was therefore established that a confession does not prove the truth of what is declared to have taken place. Since, if nothing further, it shows an extraordinary proceeding, an exception to the general rules of nature. And, under similar circumstances, can you have a certainty? Consult your conscience. Because a man says he has killed, must he be the wounder? You ought to infer the fact, from the proofs before you. A confession worded in that manner, containing no sense whatever, and tending only to the ruin, loss, and death of the person who made it, such a confession made before the magistrate and constable, appears to me cannot in any way constitute a proof.

Would you believe a prisoner who says, "I am not guilty?" When he says, "I am not guilty," would you release him? No; you would call for the proofs. If you do not believe one who says, "I am not guilty," why should you believe him who says "I am guilty?" The position appears to me perfectly the same. If you put faith in one, you must also place faith in the other; it would otherwise be a cruelty, a partiality, an injustice. You can put faith in those proofs which you may consider worthy of credit; but if you do not believe one who says, "I am not guilty," one who declares his innocence, you should not believe another who declares his guilt.

It appears to me, that up to the present time we have not had sufficient proofs to enable us to say that the accused is the wounder. You have the evidence of Pace and Cristina, and we have observed that it amounts to nothing; the conjectures alluded to also amount to nothing. A confession against one's self ought not to be admitted as a proof, as it cannot be made by a person in his senses.

The Crown Advocate spoke to you of certain antecedent actions which had passed between the prisoner and Capt. Graves. He mentioned them, and I cannot in any way abstain from making comments on them. In the first instance, I find myself under the absolute necessity of making some remarks concerning the deceased, with whom the prisoner had the antecedents above-mentioned, in consequence of (as it was said) his having been brought before him; he was sentenced, and his boat was hauled up. It was said that the prisoner spoke ill of the Superintendent, and that on one occasion, on going out of the office, he made use of the following expression, "What a donkey this Superintendent is." On another occasion he made use of an obscene word. It is evident that these were antecedents. It is not my intention in any manner to offend the memory of the deceased, who was deserving of every regard as a good citizen and good father of a family. Capt. Graves previous to his appointment as Superintendent of the Ports was a captain in the Royal Navy, and therefore accustomed to command disciplined men. The least infraction of discipline renders the offender liable to a very severe punishment, discipline being the soul of military service. On his being appointed Superintendent, he also had under his jurisdiction the boatmen, a set of poor men who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow; independent men, not bound by any engagement. Thus a severity that was praiseworthy in a captain might be disapproved of in a civil officer, and still more so, when he came in contact with the boatmen under his jurisdiction. The prisoner is a boatman, he is burdened with a wife and four children; he supported his family and that of his sister, Maria, a widow with three children. Thus the lives of nine individuals were dependent on the man placed before you; the lives of nine individuals depend on that man, against whom the punishment of death is invoked. When the prisoner rowed and worked he succeeded in earning bread for the family that God gave him, and for that family which he bur-

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dened himself with through fraternal love and christian charity. But when he was condemned to be idle, when he did not work, desolation and famine reigned under his roof; his children wanted bread, and he had none to give them. I will not describe to you the horrid and awful state of a father of a family, with four children, condemned to idleness, condemned not to work. When he sees his children hungry, like a sad shadow persecuting him, when he hears their cries, he becomes a lost man, and abandons himself to perfect despair, and his actions are not free; he acts, being urged by the hunger of his children, who ask for bread when he has none to give them. It is a horrible state. Can you describe to me the feelings of a father on seeing his children suffering from hunger? What can such a man do on hearing their cries, their complaints? Despair persecutes him. He knows that he has under his roof a large family, a wife nigh to confinement, and children famishing. Despair assails him, and he no longer knows what he does. He finds himself overpowered by an idea that he cannot avert, by an idea that he cannot abandon. And such idea is forced upon him, and drives him to despair; he acts without being conscious of what he does. Let us suppose that the prisoner, perhaps unjustly, perhaps without any reason, hated Capt. Graves, because he considered him the cause of the unhappiness of his family--of himself and of his children. Perhaps he considered Capt. Graves as the cause of the hunger of his family, and of his own condemnation to idleness. I say he considered wrongly, because the deceased was an upright man; but still he considered so. He considered him as the cause of the hunger of his children, and we now perceive what might have led him to the confession of a crime which he has not committed. He on hearing that a person whom he hated had been wounded, said that he himself had wounded him, because he was gratified at seeing a person whom he hated wounded; he wanted to take on himself a revenge executed by others. The confessions were made with that impression; he was gratified at Capt. Graves being stabbed, and wished to be considered the author, as a misunderstood glory of revenge. He declares himself as the wounder, he runs away, he afterwards gives himself up to the police, and seeks death as an honourable end. Can this be called reasoning? It therefore appears to me that those confessions ought not to constitute any proof whatever; but let us for a moment suppose that those confessions might constitute some proof (you have heard them read) what do they amount to? In the first one the prisoner said, "I, almost overpowered by despair, almost lost to myself, committed the deed." Now supposing you admit those confessions, which I do not think you will do, you must admit them as they stand. You may accept them in part; but I consider it would only be reasonable, should you accept them (although you ought not to do so), to accept them altogether. He says, "almost overpowered by despair, almost lost to myself," therefore he was determined through despair, he was lost to himself. This we have from his own confession, and upon which the Crown Advocate chiefly based his charge.

I now close the part relative to the proofs of the crime, or rather the proofs regarding the guilt of the prisoner, and I consider that you cannot declare the prisoner guilty, as you have not the best proof, and Cristina's evidence ought not to be relied upon; because confessions do not constitute any proof whatever against those who make them, and finally, because if there be a doubt, such doubt must absolutely be given in favour of the prisoner. I consider there is no doubt whatever, I consider it to be certain, and if not certain, the doubt is so great that it amounts nearly to a certainty. Remember that it is better that a hundred guilty persons should go unpunished, than that an innocent one should be punished. I repeat that all doubt, all uncertainty, should be given in favour of the prisoner. Unless you have a positive certainty, unless you consider the proofs brought before you as positive, nothing on earth should ever induce you to declare the prisoner guilty of the crime imputed to him. I leave it entirely in your hands; consult your conscience, your conviction, and I feel confident that from all you have heard there is quite enough to enable you to declare that the crime is not proved against the prisoner.

I said that I would address you both as regards the wounding and the author of the same, as also regarding the wound itself. Let me now address you concerning the wound, independently of what we have said regarding the wounder.

It was stated that Capt. Graves was wounded in the abdomen. (The description of the wound as found in the process is read.) It was also stated that Capt. Graves died in consequence of this wound. I would ask, would he have been saved had the necessary remedies been administered to him? That wound was hurtful, was it absolutely or accidentally mortal? Did death necessarily follow in consequence of the wound, or of other circumstances? We must examine all this in the best manner possible.

All wounds in the abdomen, even those penetrating the intestines, are deemed, by all those who have written on medical jurisprudence, curable. And when in some case death should ensue, it does so accidentally. Were I to be allowed to prove this by quoting authorities, I would have brought you innumerable writers on modern medicinal law, who say that wounds in the abdomen, even those penetrating the intestines, are naturally curable; and amongst the ancient writers, although not much inclined to admit the curability of wounds, many are of opinion that such wounds in the abdomen are curable, even the most dangerous. It is a positive accepted opinion that even when the wound is attended with the most alarming symptoms, it is curable. In many cases of wounds in the abdomen, when death was considered inevitable, still cures were effected. Even when the intestines protruded they were, by proper means, set right. In cases of slight wounds, of small extension, their cure can be effected without much difficulty. We know the nature of the wound in question. It is stated in the report of Drs. Clinquant and Sammut, made on the 25th August last,

last, the day Capt. Graves was wounded. The report says, " an incisive wound, dangerous for its consequences ;" in other words, dangerous for the consequences that might ensue. It, therefore, results from this first report that the wound was not dangerous in itself, but for the consequences that might ensue. These consequences do not constitute the wound as mortal. Wounds are either incurable in themselves and are then called mortal, or are incurable for their consequences, and are then called dangerous for what may ensue; namely, the constitution of the person wounded, or having an illness threatening death. Capt. Graves had a chronic inflammation of the liver which may have influenced the inflammation of the peritoneum, omentum, and small intestine. It cannot, therefore, be said that death was caused by the wound. Sometimes, a slight wound may become dangerous and mortal in consequence of extraneous causes. For instance, calling in other medical medical men and adopting a different treatment, without taking the advice of the medical men who first examined the wound, changing the mode of cure, agitating one's self, moving about, going to Floriana in a carriage, not minding diet, are motives for rendering incurable a wound quite curable. And the want of ability of the medical men may also be the cause of accidents. Many medical men have been produced by the prosecution. Dr. Simpson said, " I did not observe any symptoms of inflammation before the 27ih of August." Dr. Chetcuti, who did not examine the wound, said, " Eight hours after he was wounded I saw Capt. Graves. I stayed with him three quarters of an hour, and from his difficulty of breathing, quick pulsation, cold perspiration and other symptoms, I considered an inflammation existed." Dr. Chetcuti, therefore, noticed the inflammation eight hours after the wounding, but Dr. Simpson, who had charge of the patient, did not notice any symptoms of inflammation before the 27th August. This is stated by the medical men produced by the prosecution. It is clear that inflammation began eight hours after the wounding, as Dr. Chetcuti noticed an incipient inflammation eight hours after Capt. Graves had been wounded. Dr. Simpson only observed the inflammation two days after. He, therefore, treated the patient for two days without considering the inflammation; therefore, no remedy was adopted to allay the inflammation for two days. Dr. Clinquant said that the introduction of the probe might disturb the cicatrization, and the removal of the dressing and the introduction of air might produce inflammation. Drs. Clinquant and Sammut said that the adhesion of the intestine might also have been the commencement of cicatrization. Dr. Simpson said that cures of similar wounds were seldom effected, but admitted that even certain wounds in the abdomen were eventually cured, when I quoted the works of Sir Astley Cooper. Dr. Toms said that the wound was absolutely mortal, the inflammation incurable, circumstances contradicted by Dr. Clinquant, who said that the inflammation might have been overcome. Another medical man, Dr. Simpson (not the one in charge of the patient), said that wounds in the abdomen are generally fatal, and Dr. Felice Calleja said that formerly such wounds were considered fatal, but recently they have been considered curable.

It appears to me, therefore, that even the medical gentlemen who have deposed on being produced by the prosecution, do not dispose of the doubt, are not positive in their assertions, so as to enable us to say that that wound was absolutely mortal. That death absolutely ensued as the consequence of the wound. And this I trust to be able to prove to you through medical men who, on such matters, will be better able to give you information.

In conclusion, it appears to me that the principal points for declaring the prisoner guilty of the crime imputed to him are wanting. I consider that the proofs which might work on a just conscience, which might lead to an internal conviction that the prisoner was the author of the crime, are wanting. We have no proofs of the crime beyond, in some manner, that of a constable, a proof that I leave to your consideration. His (the prisoner's) confession leads to nothing in my opinion. As to the wounding, supposing that the prisoner had been the author of the wound, such wound was not at first considered as dangerous in itself, but dangerous for its consequences. You have heard the medical men present at the *post mortem* examination, who examined the cavities of the abdomen, of the cranium and of the thorax, but nothing was said of the stomach. They said they examined it externally, and add, that had they examined it internally, they would not have receded from the judgment formed. But I cannot say what all this amounts to. Do you not think, that in a case of this sort, with such a wound, a more perfect examination should have been made under the circumstances? The medical men present at the *post mortem* examination did not state what they found, beyond a little serous matter, and when questioned, they added that they found some traces of oil. It appears to me that their report is defective in many respects. It appears to me that you must have some idea that the wound was curable, and that, if it ended fatally, it may be attributed to the introduction of air, to the removal of the dressing, and to other circumstances explained by me. We have different opinions, we have differing ideas in the very medical men produced by the prosecution. Some say that such wounds are generally mortal, others positively so, and others that they are in the generality of cases. It appears to me, therefore, that from the disagreement of opinions, you are unable to declare with certainty, that this has been a voluntary homicide, that the wound in question caused the death of Capt. Graves.

If the Court will allow me, I shall now produce the witnesses I have summoned in support of what I have submitted to you, to the utmost of my ability.

Appendix.

Witnesses called for the Defence.

No. 1.—*Giuseppe Agius*, Examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

I was messenger to the late Captain Graves. On the day he was wounded I was at his house. He came there in a carriage accompanied by a doctor and the Rev. Mr. Cleugh. On opening the door I was told to assist Captain Graves out of the carriage, and the Doctor said to me, "Gently, gently." Captain Graves added, "Giuseppe, gently." His bed-room was up stairs, but the Doctor said he had better be taken into a room on the ground-floor. This was suggested by the doctor. They sent me up stairs to bring some clothes; he (Captain Graves) took off the clothes he had on and put on others. He took off the shirt, the flannel, and the pantaloons; the shirt was white. An hour after he required my assistance; he wanted to get up to drink. He left his bed once; on Tuesday. The first time he required my assistance he wanted to be raised to a sitting posture for the object of drinking toast and water or tea. He drank tea once, and toast and water several times. On Wednesday he took some broth. On Tuesday he took castor-oil, and on Wednesday also. He also drank a little spirit ordered by the doctor, after he had had a bath on Wednesday, about half past eight o'clock. The spirit I mentioned was a little gin, that he had up stairs, he drank it with water in a tumbler. There was as much gin as is sold for a halfpenny in the shops. It was given him by order of the doctor. Captain Graves said, "I should like to have something to strengthen me, as I feel very weak." Dr. Simpson then asked me, "Giuseppe, have you anything in the house?" I answered I had a cup of chicken broth. He took the broth, with half an ounce of bread, in the presence of the doctor. On Thursday morning, at six o'clock, Captain Graves said to me, "Giuseppe, I want something." I then went up stairs to Dr. Simpson, and asked him to come down to Captain Graves; and Dr. Simpson on entering the room said, "Giuseppe, give him a fresh egg, but do not boil it more than a minute, and a little bread, but very little. And Dr. Simpson added, "I want you to go for his medical attendant at the mess-house (Dr. Simpson of the 71st Regiment)." Captain Graves drank the broth; he took the egg after the broth. Dr. Simpson wrote something. I went to the mess-house and found the doctor asleep. I awoke him, gave him the note, and he answered, "I will come directly," and came. I think he (Captain Graves) took tea twice. Once with a little bread and once without. He took it on Tuesday and Wednesday. He took it with milk. It was a little more than a pint. He took an egg once. He drank spirits once. I brought the spirits from up stairs, and having poured the spirits into the tumbler, the doctor put in the water. Captain Graves left his bed twice, and required my assistance. He sat on the bed stool. On another occasion he left his bed and sat for twenty minutes on the sofa, until the bed was made. He took a bath on Wednesday evening, about half-past eight. The bath was not next to the bed. He never smoked from the day he was wounded; he eat no meat. Captain Graves died on Thursday at a quarter to eight.

No. 2.—*Carmela*, Widow of *Giuseppe Scerri*, Examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

I was servant to Mrs. Graves. On the 25th August, when Captain Graves was brought home wounded; I was up stairs, but I did not enter Captain Graves' room. I do not know whether he eat after he was wounded. I do not know whether he drank; I never entered his room. I prepared nothing to be eaten by Captain Graves, as I am not the cook. I was told that Captain Graves did not move out of his bed. I was told that he could not even sit up.

No. 3.—Magistrate Dr. *A. Zammit*, Examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

Captain Graves made a charge, which I wrote down. He complained of having been wounded. He told me on the 25th August, on his oath, when lying in bed, that on that day, about mid-day, he had been to Sir William Thornton's office, and after leaving it, he went towards his carriage, which was waiting for him at the door of the Treasury (or secretary's office), in Strada Reale. On getting in, he told me he saw himself assaulted by a man unknown to him, but whom he would recognise on seeing him. On my asking him who had wounded him, and whether he knew the man's name, he answered, he is unknown to me. The English word used by him was unknown. Continuing my examination, I asked him, "Do you think you would know him if you were to see him again?" And he answered, "Yes." I then asked him, what has this man done to you? what harm? what hurt? what wound? And he answered, that he had been wounded with a weapon which he could not distinguish at the time. He further told me that the man had struck two blows at him. With the first he tore his clothes, and the second penetrated into the flesh and caused the wound he bore. He added, that, at the moment, he cried out "Police! murder!" The English words used by him were, "Police! murder!" He also said that he followed the wounder to catch him and secure him. He afterwards desisted on seeing that a constable had arrested him. He then went to Dr. Sammut's dispensary, opposite St. John's Church, where his wound was dressed by Drs. Sammut and Clinquant, and he ended by invoking the administration of justice.

By the Foreman of the Jury.—Do you know whether Captain Graves afterwards saw the same man who had wounded him?

Witness

Witness.—Yes; he said he saw him arrested. On seeing that the constable had secured him he desisted from following him. He did not give up following him until he saw him arrested.

No. 4.—*Cristoforo Schembri,* Examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

I know Giuseppe Meli; on the occasion of the Festa, at Sliema, he was with me. We were together at Marsamuscetto; and I said to him, "What are you doing here? for what reason do you not work your boat?" He answered, "The sergeant will not allow me to work with a boy as one of the rowers in the boat." To which I replied, "He allows others to work with only a boy, and he won't allow you to work with a boy!" The boy is of the age of twelve years, and is the son of the prisoner. On that day there were other boatmen, each accompanied by a boy. The sergeant was called Andrew; until the feast of that day terminated, the sergeant kept him there and did not allow him to work. I know that once the prisoner took an officer from Cospicua to the Rinella to bathe. I saw him take the officer. On the morrow I met the prisoner at the Custom-house, and I asked him where he was going to. He answered, "To the Custom-house, because that officer wanted to give me 6*d.*, and I wanted more; because I was entitled to more according to the tariff." He told me himself that he took him from Cospicua to the Rinella. I know that for this reason he was summoned before the superintendent. The prisoner's wife told me that for this reason he was condemned. I don't know whether anything happened regarding the boat's lantern, but I know that the guardian sent him away.

Cross-examined by the Crown Advocate.

The prisoner's wife is my sister.

No. 5.—*Angelo Mifsud,* Examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

I know Giuseppe Meli. I know that his boat was once hauled up on shore. I once went to see his boat. I wished to see it, knowing that he wanted to sell it, after it was hauled up for fifteen days. I told him it was better not to sell it; the fifteen days will pass, and you can again work with your boat; he had sold it to me for thirty scudi, because he wanted to support his family; that cost him two scudi a day. I gave him the thirty scudi, but after an hour his wife came and returned the money. This was on the first day that the boat was hauled up.

No. 6.—Dr. *Gavino Portelli,* Senior Physician of the Central Civil Hospital, Examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

A wound in the abdomen, of the length of half an inch, situated on the right side of the navel, and about two inches distant from it, directed obliquely from above downwards, passing in this direction through the parietes of the abdomen, and penetrating an intestine, is not, in my opinion, a mortal wound in itself. By the words, "a mortal wound in itself," we mean a wound which is followed by death, as in the case of wounds of the liver and its great vessels; the consequence of which is death. A wound, like the former, is dangerous but not mortal. Such wounds sometimes heal, and sometimes end with death. I have had even worse cases than the one in question, cases in which a considerable portion of the intestinal tube had protruded. I had to return the parts to their place, and to bind up the wound, yet recovery took place. I have had several cases with good result, but I cannot state the number. In a wound like the one in question, on inflammation setting in, recovery may still be obtained by opportune measures. In my opinion, from what I have heard, the wound which Captain Graves received was curable, it might have been cured. I should have adopted the most rigorous antiphlogistic system; application of leeches, in considerable number, on the abdomen, as well as bleeding from the arm. But the pulse is that which must guide the medical man in the course he is to adopt. I think the opinion of medical men is unanimous on this point. I think the wound in question ought to have been treated as follows:—A most rigorous diet. By a most rigorous diet we mean a diet under which the patient should take almost nothing, some slight sip. I should not have allowed him to eat, because this is contrary to all medical discipline. Nor should I have allowed him to take tea with bread twice in one day; at least, I should have been guided by the symptoms; and, in a case when the intestine was injured, I should not have allowed, and certainly I should not have approved, that the patient should have even half an ounce of bread; it is adding wood to the fire, an increasing of the inflammation. I should not allow such a patient to take broth, because all that strengthens the body is contraindicated in such cases. I should never have permitted such an individual to drink gin, even in the smallest quantity; nor even so much as is given in shops for half a penny, nor even if it were diluted with water. I should not have allowed such a man to take any, however small, quantity of camphor after he was wounded. A man who has received such a wound must keep in most perfect quietude, and in a fitting position. I should not have permitted such a man to leave his bed, nor even to relieve himself, he must keep perfectly quiet. To convey a man so wounded from Valletta to Floriana, in a carriage, cannot be approved of; the case is aggravated thereby. To change his clothes cannot be approved of, the parts might be disturbed thereby. I do not approve the putting of a man so wounded in a bath. In ordinary cases a bath would do no harm, on the contrary, it is indicated; but not in a similar case of a wound. I should have rather prescribed warm fomentations on the belly. I should not have given castor-

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castor-oil, or any other purgative. I should have used injections. I should not have applied mustard poultices. I should have prescribed emollient cataplasms. Perhaps I should have given opium according to the symptoms. I certainly should never have removed the original dressing. Wounds once dressed are left untouched for two or three days until the time arrives for dressing them again. The introduction of a probe, or of a like instrument, is proscribed. No good can come of it, possibly harm. There is nothing to be gained by the introduction of the probe. The probe is, for instance, used in wounds caused by fire-arms, to remove extraneous bodies from the wound; in such cases I should have no objection to use it. I have heard the treatment adopted in the case of Captain Graves. I do not approve of it; that is my opinion, but every medical man has his own plan. I think the treatment adopted was not sufficient to overcome inflammation. I cannot say that the treatment adopted caused the death of Captain Graves, for that would mean that he died because he was badly treated, and that he would not have died if he had been properly treated. I cannot say with assurance that he would have lived, but I should not have adopted that treatment. In my opinion the inflammation of the peritoneum, omentum, and intestine, was not subdued by that treatment. If I had to conduct a *post mortem* examination, I should certainly have examined the stomach. I think the examination of the stomach necessary to ascertain its contents. In this case it was necessary, and it is recommended in medical jurisprudence . . . . . Medical art teaches the means to overcome peritonitis; they are those which I have stated. All known proper means should be employed in every case as it occurs; and, as I have said, they were not so in this. I served as a surgeon in the army for ten years. I am now employed in the Civil Hospital, and I have been so since 1819, until a few years ago, in the capacity of senior surgeon. I was professor of anatomy and surgery.

Cross-examined by the Crown Advocate.

I cannot enter into the merits of the medical treatment adopted in all cases. I did not see Captain Graves; I saw many wounds like the one in question, for instance, after the battle of . . . . . in Holland, where there were a great many men wounded in the abdomen. A man receiving a wound like that may recover, and may die. Each individual is a world in himself. Of two individuals each receiving a wound like that, one would have to be treated in one way, and the other differently: one might die and the other live; in each case the surgeon in attendance is the best judge. When it is certain that the intestines are not wounded, I should have no objection to give castor-oil. Castor-oil is anti-inflammatory. Should the castor-oil arrive at the wounded part of the intestine, extravasation of oil takes place. If there is no extravasation of oil, it cannot be said that the oil encouraged the inflammation.

No. 7.—Dr. *Laferla*, Examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

I do not consider a wound like the one in question, to be mortal, in its nature. It is dangerous on account of the consequences that might follow. I have only had but two cases, and they were cured; one was a wound in the stomach, and the other a wound exactly like this. In both these cases inflammation had set in at the beginning, but I took immediate measures to overcome it. The patient was about 38 years old, and of a rather strong constitution. I was not acquainted with Captain Graves, and have only seen him once or twice in the street. The inflammation which took place in his case might have been cured. I do not approve of the treatment adopted. I can safely say that that treatment caused his death; and I am safe in saying so, on strictly scientific grounds. Captain Graves died of the inflammation, not of the wound. The wound, small as it was, might have been cured; there was a commencement of cicatrization. The wound caused the inflammation, and the inflammation might have been cured at its onset. In such a case I should have prescribed quietude, diet, and antiphlogistic measures. In this respect I concur with Dr. Portelli, I was his pupil. The condition of a man who had received such a wound, would be greatly injured, were he to move, to get out of bed, if he were put into a bath. I should not have allowed him to eat anything, I should only have given him some drink of barley water. I treated my patients in this way. I should have no objection to give him tea; but no broth. All medical writers recommend, as much as possible, the strictest diet. All drinks should be given in small quantities, not in large draught, so as not to press on the intestinal tube in their passage. With respect to the death of Captain Graves, I say it was caused by the things given to him. I speak from my own experience, and according to the best medical authors on inflammation in particular.

The Judge.—Do you mean to say that Captain Graves was killed by the things that were given to him?

Witness.—Yes sir, undoubtedly.

The Judge—Independent of the wound?

Witness.—No, without the wond, they would have done no harm.

The Judge.—Do you mean to say that it was the medical man that killed Captain Graves?

Witness.—I say so, on my conscience.

A cordial of camphor, given in a small dose, could have done no harm, at the time it was given to him. Neither a cataplasm, nor a mustard-poultice is to be recommended in such cases. Castor-oil is not to be recommended either. I have already expressed my opinion: I disapprove of the whole treatment adopted. I think it is not proper to remove the dressing; harm might result from doing so. The use of a probe is proscribed. I think it

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was necessary to examine, not only the stomach, but also the intestinal tube. I think it was necessary in this very case; moreover, in the report of the *post mortem* examination the locality where the intestinal tube was wounded, should have been stated; mention is made of the intestinal tube, without saying in what part it was wounded. Some calculate that the intestinal tube is seven times as long as a man. Mention is made of the small intestine, without saying in what spot it was wounded. In my opinion the report of the *post mortem* examination is not according to the rules prescribed in medical jurisprudence. Whenever, in a wound of the abdomen, I am not certain that the intestines are not injured, I would invariably adopt the measures prescribed for cases with intestinal wounds. In the present case none of the measures recommended for such wounds were adopted.

Cross-examined by the Crown Advocate.

I am certain that the two cases which I mentioned were cured. In the first case I am sure that the stomach was perforated from the blood that was thrown up. After two days I sent the patient to the hospital, where he was attended by Dr. Portelli; on the 12th day he was out of danger, and on the 20th he went to his village. In the second case which I also saved, I held it as certain that the intestine was perforated. I was made almost certain of it when the patient told me he felt a burning heat inside; and I recommended to his family to keep the stools. The first day I saw two bloody clots, already altered in colour; the second day they were clearer; the third they gave me positive grounds for believing that they proceeded from the wound. They might have proceeded from other causes, but there being the wound, I thought I ought to attribute them to it. If, in the present case antiphlogistic measures had been adopted, I should have said that death was caused by excessive inflammation; but a stimulant method having been adopted, I believe death to have been the consequence of the treatment. Notwithstanding the adoption of an antiphlogistic method, the patient might die; but in the greater part of cases they are cured. Death might take place in consequence of gangrene, and for this reason such wounds are considered dangerous. They are dangerous on account of the consequences that might follow; but the wound in question, I think, was not dangerous. It was not a slight wound; but a wound attended with danger in consequence of what might follow. I am not always certain to be able to prevent inflammation; I am not aware that there are certain means in medicine. The disease might have developed symptoms calculated to make me deviate from my system; I would have adhered to it firmly, reserving to myself to abandon it, according to the symptoms that I should have observed.

No. 8.—Dr. *Adami*, called by the Advocate for the Defence.

The Judge asked the witness whether he had any experience in such wounds, intimating that it was not proper to hear witnesses on what they know from reading alone, without personal experience: medical witnesses who had not seen the patient were admissible according to law only as *experts*.

No. 9.—Dr. *Grech Delicata*, called by the Advocate for the Defence.

This witness sponaneously stated to the Court that he had no experience in such wounds, and was also allowed to withdraw.

No. 10.—Dr. *Felice Grech*, Examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

"I was clinical assistant in the surgical division. I have never treated cases of such wounds; but there was a case similar to this in the hospital, the treatment of which I followed. I do not consider a wound like that which has been described in this case to be mortal. I think it is attended with some danger. There is danger of death, it might end favourably, and it might end fatally. All wounds in the abdomen are considered dangerous. Inflammation might set in as a consequence of the wound, or by some other accident. Inflammation is curable in many cases; and in very many cases it is fatal. It depends upon the circumstances of the case. With regard to the wound in question, considering all the circumstances that I have heard, I think the inflammation is to be attributed, in a great measure to the medical treatment, the bad treatment of the wound. I should never have treated it in that manner. I certainly disapprove of what is said to have been given to the patient, the broth, the bread, the egg, I saw wounds in the abdomen in which there was uncertainty as to whether they were penetrating; but I have never had any opportunity of seeing such case in practice.

No. 11.—Dr. *Pietro Paolo Bonavia*, Examined by the Advocate for the Defence.

I have had only one case like that now described, it was a wound in the stomach. I have never seen any in the lower abdomen. I never saw that wound internally; I was guided by the symptoms to think that it was penetrating. I have heard the evidence of the other medical gentlemen and professors. As the wound was described, I do not consider it to have been mortal of its nature, but dangerous. I do not approve of the treatment adopted in general; I say I do not approve of it in general, in the particular case I might have adopted it. I should have prescribed the strictest diet, the most rigorous antiphlogistic treatment: in short I am of the same opinion as Dr. Portelli and Dr. Laferla; perhaps somewhat more rigorous, because I should have given absolutely nothing to the patient, or at most some teaspoonfuls

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of pure water. I consequently disapprove of the broth. I might have given some tea, in small quantity, with water. I should not have applied mustard-poultices.

(The witness having expressed a wish to know how the mustard-poultice was applied, Dr. Simpson explained that it was applied at the distance of three or four inches from the wound on which, moreover, several folds of lint were placed.)

Examination continued.—I disapprove of the removal of the dressing, if the latter was made according to the rules of the profession. I understood that the dressing was regularly made; and therefore I say, I should not have removed it. When the dressing is removed air might penetrate. It might; but with difficulty.

Cross-examined by the Crown Advocate.

If from sensibility or pressure, or from pain, I should have suspected that some portion of the intestine had been incarcerated between the lips of the wound, I should have removed the dressing, but to prevent a greater evil.

The Judge then called those of the medical witnesses produced by the Crown Advocate, and asked them successively whether they had given their opinion on the case in their depositions, from personal experience in such wounds, or otherwise.

Dr. *Cowen.*—I am Staff Surgeon. My knowledge of wounds like that described in the present case is based on my own experience.

Dr. *Weld.*—I am Surgeon of the 47th Regiment. What I have said was from my own experience. I have seen several like that.

Dr. *Perry.*—I am surgeon attached to the Royal Artillery. What I have said was from my own experience in the last war.

Dr. *Simpson.*—Royal Navy; I have no experience in such wounds.

Dr. *Trench.*—I am Staff Surgeon. What I said was from my own experience. I have seen wounds of almost every kind.

The Judge addressing Dr. Chetcuti, said, I know your great experience, but I must also put the same question to you.

Dr. *Chetcuti.*—I speak from my own experience.

Dr. *Stilon* was called, but was not present.

The Crown Advocate.—Dr. Stilon's experience is notorious. The medical gentlemen who assisted at the *post mortem* examination were not called.

The Crown Advocate, in reply, said:—I had, from the first moment, sympathised with the position in which my learned friend was placed in the defence of this case; and if he had not, most unnecessarily, made some comments on the manner in which the prosecution has been conducted, possibly I should not have deemed it my duty to address you again, gentlemen, and to offer further observations. I cannot make out what my learned friend meant with reference to the indictment, which he said he did not find simple enough. I shall say nothing on this point; you will have from a higher authority any explanation that may be necessary in regard to the indictment; I will confine myself to observe that my learned friend did not explain what he thought there was wanting or superfluous in that act, and I can, therefore, safely pass over all he said about it. But I shall address you respecting the document about which so much has been said, and with reference to which my learned friend said, and tried to induce you to believe, that I did not produce it for some hidden reason. It is very strange that he should have allowed himself to say so, because, on the contrary, I was desirous to produce it! I cannot say that I have had the honour of conducting cases as public prosecutor for a very long time,—about three years have only elapsed since that duty has devolved upon me, but during that period I had to bring forward some 120 or 150 cases, and in none of those cases has any person had any cause to blame me for having omitted to produce any document, from which the accused could derive any just advantage. Moreover, although it is not incumbent upon me to perform, at the same time, the duties of the prosecution and of the defence, having however by the law the power to notice anything existing on the face of the acts, that might diminish the gravity of the offence, I have constantly made use of it, as I hope I shall always do, in order to bring forward accusations in such sense, and within such limits as I may be convinced that they should be.

With regard to that document, gentlemen, you will remember that, before passing to other evidence—after having examined the witnesses who deposed on the circumstances which occurred at the Marina, and on the suspension of the use of the boat, (facts which occurred before the offence in question had been perpetrated,) before calling the witnesses who were to depose on the circumstances of that offence, and especially on the identity of the person of the offender, the first act which I expressed my desire to adduce was precisely that very document called the complaint, and made by Captain Graves. Whatever might have resulted from that deposition, it would only corroborate the evidence of the prosecution. I expressed my wish to produce that paper, not because I thought it necessary to support the prosecution, but because it having been said that the wounded man

man had made a deposition, and such deposition being in fact in existence, I would not pass it over unnoticed. I mentioned it in the note I gave of the evidence which I intended to produce, and when the proper time arrived, I asked *pro forma* permission to put it in. But at the same time, knowing that that deposition having been taken at a time when Captain Graves was not yet conscions of his imminent death, it could not be considered as a declaration made *in articulo mortis*,—and knowing also that the prisoner was not present when Captain Graves was making that deposition, and that his presence was necessary to render that document capable of being produced against him, I stated to the Court those circumstances—those reasons, for which permission to produce that document should not be granted; and the Court for those very reasons rejected my application. These, gentlemen, are facts which occurred in your presence. You have also heard the Court, when my learned friend made mention of that paper, as though it had been purposely kept back by me—the Court told him that I had been forbidden by the Court itself to produce that paper. Now you have not that paper before you—the Court has again declared that it is inadmissible,—but you have all the contents of that same paper before you. When my learned friend first referred to that paper in his speech, he only told you the contents of a portion of it, wherein it was stated that Captain Graves had been wounded by a person unknown to him, and he argued that, as Captain Graves said that the wound had been inflicted upon him by a man unknown to him, the prisoner therefore could not have been that man. From that word alone he drew his inference, and said that it resulted from the very deposition of Captain Graves that it was not the prisoner who had stabbed him. But my learned friend in his speech omitted to tell you the remainder of the contents of that paper. Captain Graves continued to say, "I pursued the man who wounded me in order to arrest him, and it was when I saw him in the hands of the police that I proceeded to the Dispensary, &c." If anything, therefore, results from that paper, it is this, that the man who wounded Captain Graves was the man who is now before you. In what you have now before you—the contents of that paper—you have the evidence, and as my learned friend said, the best evidence—that the prisoner is the man who stabbed Captain Graves. But was not the evidence produced quite sufficient, independent of that deposition?

One of the witnesses, the calesse-driver, told you that he had seen a man near the door of the Treasury while the calesse was waiting there for Captain Graves. He said that that man had spoken to the witness himself about his boat having been hauled up. I will take no notice of the latter part of the deposition of the calesse-driver. I will only call your attention to that part of it where the witness said that, before the assault on Captain Graves took place, he saw a man there, who spoke to the witness about his boat. A constable named Paolo Pace, came near that man and the calesse-driver—he saw that man. Constable Pace, whose character the Advocate for the defence was unable to impeach, said that the prisoner was that man. Pace asked the calesse-driver whether he was contented that day, and the prisoner leapt into the conversation, and said,—"Yes, he is contented, because his master leaves for England to-day." Now if the prisoner was the man who was near the calesse, when there was nobody else present, with the exception of Captain Graves,—if Captain Graves was seen pursuing that same man, calling out, "Arrest that man!" who else but that man could have been the individnal who inflicted the wound? Constable Cristina, from the corner of Strada Reale and Strada Teatro, had seen the prisoner move from somewhere, approach Captain Graves, and make movements as if he were giving blows. The deposition of Cristina was submitted to undeserved strictures—strictures, however, which I cannot blame, because it was the right, as well as the duty of the Advocate for the defence to endeavour to shake the evidence of the prosecution; but among other things the Advocate said that Cristina went to give his deposition on the 28th, at a time when Captain Graves was dead; that he was a witness in reserve—and that he was produced to save the whole body of the police from discredit. Gentlemen, it is painful to remark, almost whenever the police is in question, that we hear language used towards that body as though they are the worst class of society,—as if the police had ever concocted evidence to lay false charges against any one! Cristina has been spoken of as if, Captain Graves being dead, it was necessary to procure some one or other to come forward and say that he saw some individual striking Captain Graves! But my learned friend forgot that the prisoner had on the 25th said to Inspector Psaila, "I am the man who stabbed Captain Graves!" The deposition of Inspector Psaila was not isolated; three or four other persons had heard the same words. Serjeant Calleja, Serjeant Mifsud, Constable Psaila, and all those persons confirm Psaila's deposition. Cristina deposed on the 28th, whereas the prisoner had the day before, on the 27th, admitted before the magistrate that he was the man who had stabbed Captain Graves. What evidence was then wanting? None. Even, therefore, if malice had come to such a pitch—if it were possible to doubt the honesty of the police—yet what need had the police to create a witness to give false testimony?

But my learned friend says, was it necessary for Cristina to quit his post in order to get some water, which he might have bought, under the arches or near that place, for a farthing or less? Now, I am addressing Maltese gentlemen who are well aware that the lower classes, poor, and depending upon small profits or a scanty salary, can with difficulry support themselves, and that they cannot easily afford to buy water to drink, as long as they can get it free of expense at a few paces distant. But suppose Cristina was not justified in quitting the post assigned to him, even being thirsty, to get some water, would it follow that his deposition should be less credible? He avowed that he did not see, what

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he stated he had seen, from his post; he candidly avowed that he had failed in his duty, if for a constable (who after all is not a sentry over a powder magazine), to leave his post even for the shortest time, is a breach of duty. If he did thereby commit a transgression, his own sincerity in avowing it would show that he was saying the truth in all that he stated. But independent of that, all the deposition of Cristina, except that part where he says he saw the prisoner moving his arm as if in the act of giving blows, is confirmed by the deposition of constable Pace, and also by that of constable Farrugia, who at the crossing between Strada Reale and Strada Santa Lucia, came face to face with the prisoner, and arrested him. If Captain Graves did not stab himself, if he was not stabbed by the calesse-driver, it being impossible that he could have been stabbed by the policemen, it seems to me that nothing was wanting to prove that the prisoner was the offender. But, now, gentlemen, if any doubt existed it is removed by the deposition of Captain Graves which has now been placed before you.

My learned friend said that the prosecution felt it necessary to avail itself of the declarations made by the prisoner. I must dwell a little upon this point. Proofs difficult to obtain, and not necessary to support an indictment, can be left aside, and they are frequently dispensed with: but proofs easy to obtain, though not necessary, are almost never omitted. Generally all the evidence which appears on the acts of instruction is produced; and sometimes by cross-examination or otherwise, an honest advantage is drawn from such evidence in favour of the accused. That is the practice; and for that reason I produced not only the confessions made by the prisoner before the magistrate, but also the witnesses who had previously heard the same thing from the prisoner himself. What I wished chiefly to prove by the depositions of those witnesses was the prisoner's state of mind. He, immediately after the perpetration of the crime, felt what no man could fail to feel under such circumstances—an internal sensation of reproach. He felt the necessity of saying something to excuse himself, and at the same time to attract sympathy, and he immediately spoke of what he termed the persecution to which he said Captain Graves had subjected him.

I repeat, gentlemen, what I told you at the opening of this case. It is not necessary in all cases to trace out by the evidence the motive by which a man had been impelled to commit a crime; but it is always desirable, in order fully to comprehend the circumstances of a crime like the present, to have some information, if possible, of the motives which led to the perpetration of that crime. My learned friend did not expressly allude to provocation, but from all that he said, it seems that he wished to insinuate that there had been some provocation, which had produced a derangement of the senses—a rage—under the stimulus of which the offence was committed. All this is contradicted by the facts; but, independent of that, in any case of provocation, when the act of provocation does not occur at the time when the offence is committed, or when that act is a lawful act done by an individual in the exercise of his duties; in such cases the provocation, if that might be called so, cannot be considered as an excuse. Could an act of vengeance against a judge be excused on the ground of its having been committed in consequence of a sentence pronounced by that judge? Nor, indeed, is there any possible excuse when between the supposed act of provocation (which in this case would have occurred on the 7th of August), and the perpetration of the offence (which in this case occurred on the 25th of August) some 18, 19, or 20 days had intervened, when, during such an interval of time a multitude of extraneous acts should have occurred, notwithstanding that by fresh accidents the sense of the wrong suffered should have been renewed. If a man who has received, or believes he has received an injury, having conceived an idea of revenging himself for it, should go on brooding upon that idea through the daily repetition of all the ordinary occurrences of life, so that that idea, rendered more burning because it has been longer nourished, should bring him to the perpetration of a crime, it would be worse than idle for that man to recall the injury received as an excuse for his crime. It would on the contrary tend to show premeditation.

I have no need in this case to give evidence of premeditation, but if it were necessary to prove premeditation by special evidence, I believe a clearer case of premeditation than the present could hardly be imagined. The prisoner saw Captain Graves at the Marina; he followed him, and Captain Graves having entered a place, he remained near the door of that place waiting for him, and chatting with the calesse driver and a policeman, in a state of cold-blooded determination. If it had been necessary according to law to state in the indictment that the offence had been committed with premeditation, and to offer apposite evidence to show that premeditation, that evidence would have resulted in the highest degree from those circumstances of this case.

It is contrary to reason, said my learned friend, that a man should confess his own crime; and, therefore, he besought you not to credit the confessions made by the prisoner. I am not prepared to admit that confessions of one's own guilt are against nature. I cannot however help admitting that they are unusual here, for offenders generally deny their guilt. But when it is said that such confessions are not credible evidence, then I ask, is this consistent with what has hitherto been recognised? With what has ever been the law?—Is it consistent with common sense, that such declarations received without threats or promises, nay, after a solemn caution that all that might be said, would be liable to be given in evidence, should not be received in evidence against the man who made them? "You have said it, you have admitted it, yourself"— is the most common and natural way of bringing a fact home to a man; and the law which has made it evidence has but sanctioned what common sense dictated; and to maintain that a confession, not extorted by threats or promises, but made

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by a man conscious of his liberty to make it or not, should not, on account of its own intrinsic nature, be received in evidence; it is to go against all that common sense and the law have ever sanctioned.

The statement made by the prisoner before the magistrate has also furnished matter for other comments; and it has been remarked that Farrugia, Pace, and Cristina had not all of them repeated the same thing. But what is the consequence? Take all those three repetitions of the statement which the prisoner made as soon as he was arrested, and consider whether they do agree in the substance. "I killed him; and if he did not die, tell me, and let me go, for I want to kill him," is not that the substance of all? If the witnesses differed in words and not in the substance, it shows the veracity of their reports; it shows that they did not depose after a plan previously concerted, and that they stated that which truly existed in their memory: what they all remembered was the substance of the prisoner's statement, not the very words he used, and that substance did they depose. If, indeed, anything is to be inferred from the differences in those depositions, it is their truthfulness.

The report read by Inspector Psaila contained more details, but it amounted to the same confession; and that confession was repeated by two other persons, Sergeant Calleja and Sergeant Mifsud. The two latter do not repeat the same words which the inspector reported, but they give in substance the same thing. It has been remarked that Inspector Psaila had taken down immediately what he had heard from the prisoner; but that was his duty. In a previous case the same inspector was cautioned by the Court that it was necessary that a police officer should write down what he would have heard, instead of trusting to his memory only; and it was after that caution that Inspector Psaila took down what he thought might be important, and wrote *per extensum* all that the prisoner had said. Calleja and Mifsud did not repeat exactly the same words, but the difference in words or in circumstances is of small importance. All those depositions agree with the confessions which the prisoner made before the magistrate on the 27th, that is to say, two days after the offence was committed, and the interval of two days was more than sufficient for the return of calmness to his mind. They agree also with the statement of the 1st of September before the same magistrate, when the prisoner spontaneously said to the magistrates, "I want to speak; let me speak:" and, besides the circumstances particularly relative to the homicide, he related the preceding circumstances of the suspension of the use of the boat, and of the damages he had sustained in consequence of that suspension.

A great stress has been made in the defence about those damages, but without the least foundation. In the first place, the crime was not committed during the time when the prisoner's boat was hauled up, but two days after he had again commenced to work with that boat. I cannot understand what my learned friend meant to say when he spoke of the prisoner as though he had been under a passion from hunger? If it was not to vent a hatred he had nourished against Captain Graves; if the prisoner suffered from hunger, why did he come up to Strada Reale, instead of going down to work with his boat? He had had the boat two days before. On the evening of the previous day observations were made to him because he had no light in his boat; he then worked. When a boatman has no bread, he goes to work; he does not come up to spend his time in Strada Reale. I submit these remarks, gentlemen, to show you that the prisoner was not in the condition which has been described.

My learned friend wondered why I did not produce two witnesses who had been examined by the magistrate, on the nature of the knife. I have not produced them because I have drawn no inference from the nature of that instrument. Particular evidence concerning the nature of an instrument is sometimes given in, to infer therefrom what might have been the intention of the man who struck another with such an instrument. From the nature of that instrument, especially if it be a weapon ordinarily used for offensive or defensive purposes, inferences frequently are drawn concerning the intention of the man who used it, when other means for discovering that intention are wanting, I based no argument on the knife, either to infer whom it belonged to, or to discover the intention of the man who made use of it. It was totally unimportant for me whether that was a common knife or otherwise. Two witnesses, one of whom, named Benedetto, were brought before the magistrate, and they said that that knife was an instrument apt alike for domestic purposes, and for purposes of offence or defence. I have not produced them, because I did not want their evidence. Let that knife be considered as a table knife, the state of the case is by no means altered thereby.

My learned friend said also, that the acts of instruction had contained some irregularities, and that I had been under the necessity of sending them back to the magistrate to rectify them. This is correct. But those irregularities occurred in certain forms established by the law, which did not affect any one of the documents that I have produced. Those irregularities were the following, namely, the registrar had omitted to certify, on the report signed by Drs. Clinquant and Sammut, as well as on that of the *post mortem* examination, the time when, and the persons by whom they had been produced. That certificate is rather a matter of form, but eventually necessary; because if any one of the gentlemen signed in those reports should have been unable to appear in this Court, it would become necessary to produce those reports, which, however, the Court, as occurred in some previous case, would not have permitted, owing to the omission of that certificate. But I have made no use of those documents except such use as might be made of any private paper; they served only to refresh the memory of the witnesses. I do not now refer to what those gentlemen said before the magistrate, but to their oral depositions in this Court; and consequently those papers have no importance whatever in the case.

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There was a passage in the defence on which, indeed, I do not believe it is necessary for me to dwell. My learned friend said it was possible that the prisoner having heard that Captain Graves had been stabbed, had hurried to the police station to take on himself the crime committed by another. On this part of the defence I will no longer detain you, gentlemen. You have in this respect had such evidence as to make it absolutely unnecessary for me to add anything. I am now going to submit for your consideration some observations concerning the cause of Captain Graves's death.

Gentlemen, you must have been struck by the extraordinary number of medical men, that I have produced in this case; but I deemed it my duty to call such a number of medical men, so as to prevent, as much as it lay in my power, the ends of justice from being frustrated in case of some appearance of a conflict of opinions. I have not confined myself to call, as usual, the medical man who attended the patient and those who assisted at the *post mortem* examination; but I have also submitted to you the opinion of other medical gentlemen who, having visited Captain Graves as friends, had an opportunity of forming an opinion on the case; and in consequence of what happened on another occasion, anticipating the course that was likely to be pursued by the defence, I thought it expedient, further, to call other medical gentlemen, to give you their opinion on the circumstances they would hear from the depositions of those who had seen Captain Graves wounded, or examined his body after death. All of them agree on the cause of Captain Graves' death. There are in their depositions some differences relative to abstract questions or to definition of words; but on he case in particular, on the point which alone is important for us to know in this case, they all agree, and positively say that Captain Graves' death was the effect of the wound he had received. You have subsequently heard also medical gentlemen called by the defence. Those witnesses expressed their opinion, particularly on the treatment, and said that the method pursued was not that which they would have adopted; but mark, they had not seen Captain Graves, nor examined his body. On the present case, in particular, they could say nothing in a positive manner; and nothing of what they have said weakens the evidence which I had laid before you. Bear in mind, gentlemen, that we are not here to discuss medical questions as to what is the best method of treating wounds. Our question is that only to see whether the accused is or is not responsible for the death of Captain Graves; whether he is guilty of homicide. Whatever might be the means which should have been employed in order to prevent, as much as possible, the consequences of the wound, there are undoubted principles in the law which you must look to for your guidance in framing your decision.

When there is a wound, and that wound is of itself capable of causing death, if death ensues, it is an effect corresponding to the cause, the wound; and the man who inflicted that wound is responsible for voluntary homicide, independent of the question whether any remedy has been omitted, the application of which might have prevented death, provided it should not be proved that something was applied that together with the wound, had the effect of causing death, which the wound alone would not have caused. The wound being of itself capable of producing death, if such wound should be left to itself, if no medical treatment should be applied to it, if no means should be employed to avert its effects, and death should ensue, the man who received the wound would have died from the effects of that wound, and the man who inflicted it would be responsible for homicide. It might occur that conclusive evidence should be produced to show that the wound would not have been followed by death, if the necessary remedies had been applied, still this wound does not exonerate the man who inflicted the wound; the patient would have died of the natural consequences of the wound; of an act imputable to the man who wounded him. For that man to be exonerated from the responsibility of the death ensued it is necessary that it should be proved conclusively that some other cause had supervened which actively operated in conjunction with the wound (*come concausa*) to produce death. It is not my duty, gentlemen, to argue on the law with respect to this point before you. I have only stated what seems to me necessary to have in view in weighing the evidence; you will shortly hear from the Court the legal principles which you are bound to follow. I will now call your attention to the depositions of the medical gentlemen you have heard.

In those depositions you must have observed it is unanimously admitted that a wound like that described in the indictment is at least a wound by itself dangerous; that is to say, a wound from which death as well as recovery might result. There is discrepancy amongst the witnesses with respect only to the degree of probability of death or recovery. Some called it dangerous, others very dangerous, others hardly possible to cure, and finally, some one said that it was rather curable than otherwise; but all of them, the witnesses for the defence included, describing it to be more or less dangerous, agree in the opinion that such a wound, in spite of all means to prevent its consequences, might terminate fatally.

Now, the remedies adopted in this case did not prevent Captain Graves's death; but did they operate as a supervening cause to occasion the death which would not have ensued from the wound alone? As to what should be the treatment, medical men differ in this case as they do in almost every case; but they agree that there is no method applicable to all cases indiscriminately; they admit that whatever may be the preferable method in theory, the medical attendant, in the application of it, is guided by circumstances. I appeal to him among the gentlemen called for the defence who has most strongly expressed his opinion, Dr. Laferla. He said that in similar cases he would have adopted a most rigorous antiphlogistic treatment; but when I asked him, "Whether those very means which in his opinion were the most suitable, were subject to be modified according to the symptoms that might be developed in the case he might have before him? Whether he might not be compelled by circumstances to alter those means?" His answer was, "Yes." And

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when I asked him, whether those means which he said were the proper means by which the wound should have been treated would have in certainty led to recovery? he answered, "There is nothing certain in medicine!"

Some of the witnesses have neither approved nor disapproved the manner in which the wound in question was treated, attributing, however, the death to the wound and its natural consequences. A few others—those produced for the defence—have expressly disapproved such treatment, and said that they would have pursued a different course. Dr. Portelli is one of those who disapproved the treatment adopted, and especially the nourishment given to the patient. The result, however, of what he said with respect to the treatment is only that there was an omission of those means which in his opinion should have been adopted to prevent the consequences of the wound; and with respect to the nourishment, when I asked him whether, if the egg, the half an ounce of bread, the pint of tea, the small quantity of gin in a tumbler of water, were, as in the present instance, given during a period of three days, he would modify his opinion as to the effects of those very small quantities, his answer was in the affirmative. And when, afterwards, I asked him whether, being informed that those things had been administered by a medical man who had the patient under his eyes, he would nevertheless maintain that it was absolutely wrong to administer them, his answer was, "No; because the medical man would not have administered them." Moreover, gentlemen, if the method pointed out by the witnesses for the defence is a method generally adopted, how could it have escaped the experienced physicians and surgeons who attended Captain Graves? Dr. Portelli himself said that the patient can always present such symptoms as to render it necessary to adopt a different treatment. And if the medical attendant observes that the patient is lingering for want of nourishment; if he perceives that that life which he is called upon to save is sinking under the excessive rigour of the treatment, is he to persist in denying any quantity whatever of nourishment, only to enable himself to say:—I treated my patient in pursuance of the rigid precepts of that book, it matters little if he died some day earlier? All the medical men who saw Captain Graves after he was wounded, are unanimous on the cause of his death. Those who did not see him do not know under what circumstances the one thing or the other was administered to him; and even the medical men produced by the defence most clearly stated that their own method is subject to be modified according to circumstances.

Bear in mind, gentlemen, that all the medical men examined on both sides, declared that a wound like that in the present case, independently even of the particular constitution of the patient, is a dangerous wound! that is to say, such a wound as one has reason, from the first moment, to foresee at least the possibility of a fatal result, in spite of the use of the best remedies which medical science can suggest. If recovery sometimes is obtained, that is no reason why such a wound should not be considered as an injury of a dangerous nature. Some one of the witnesses said that recovery is the more frequent result: he said so on the reports which he had read in books; but Dr. Pisani explained that the cases of which reports are generally published are those which ended favourably, not those which terminated fatally. But, let it be granted that the number of cases followed by recovery is the greater, what is to be inferred therefrom? The death which followed the other cases is not less, for that, the natural consequence of the wound, whenever a supervening cause is not proved. Of the differences of opinion on the remedies calculated to prevent a fatal result it is useless to take any notice; no importance can be attached to them as far as regards the object of the law. What would be the condition of society if the law which protects the life of every individual, should be made to depend on such differences? In the present instance, you have heard medical men who had seen the patient, and others who had not. Those who saw Captain Graves after he had received the wound, state unanimously that his death was the effect of inflammation, which was caused by the wound; and upon the whole, even the depositions of those produced for the defence, and who had never seen the wounded man, do not weaken the evidence resulting from the depositions of the former, as far as regards the issue in the present case, which is that of seeing whether Captain Graves died of that wound, independent of the question on the medical treatment most likely to prevent death in similar cases.

The Advocate for the defence, Dr. *Grungo*, in rejoinder, said:—The Crown Advocate has replied to what I submitted to you, gentlemen, this morning. That reply relates to certain words, several expressions used by me; and in part it touches the fact itself, the witnesses produced, against whom I had made some observations. The Crown Advocate said that I had attacked the indictment, as not being sufficiently clear, as containing superfluous words. This I submitted to your consideration, and I again submit them to you because, as I before said, I should have wished that in an indictment like that, greater economy of words, more concise terms might have been used, and as appears to me, it would have led to a better knowledge of the facts submitted to you. In that act it says, that Giuseppe Meli committed a voluntary homicide, and then it says that he caused a wound which occasioned the death of Captain Graves. I only remarked that these two propositions mean the same thing; they are a repetition in the same sense, and in my opinion they render the indictment superabundant. But as the Crown Advocate said that he did not wish to say anything in this regard, I will not take up your time any longer on the subject.

The complaint of Captain Graves was spoken of, and it was said that I had stated it was suppressed. I did not speak of this suppression in the manner which you are led to believe. I do not think I spoke of suppression done for particular motives, or such as would imply a failure of duty, as the Crown Advocate said this morning. I only considered that inasmuch as that document existed in the proceedings, and therefore I expected every moment it would

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would be brought forward, I wanted to show that I was not ignorant of the contents of that paper, and I felt bound to deduce some argument relative to that paper. Nay, if you remember well, the Crown Advocate was the first who said that the document could not be produced, because, he said, it was not regularly formed. It is true I only mentioned a portion of the contents of the complaint; but this was because I had not the complaint before me. It is true that the complaint continues thus—"that man ran, and I followed him until I saw him in the hands of the police." But this does not show that Captain Graves knew him. He ran after a man who was running to make a confession; and 'tis true that the prisoner, against whom there is no new proof, ran. And Captain Graves, who was running after a man who spontaneously gave himself up to the police, also thought that that man had been the wounder. He was in the same supposition as all the others. The prisoner gave himself up to the police, he himself delivered the knife which he had. Therefore in that complaint there is nothing more than what you have heard from the witnesses. Captain Graves followed the man who ran and gave himself up to the police, and he supposed that the person who ran was the wounder, as was also supposed by the others who saw the prisoner deliver himself into the hands of the police.

It has also been said, in making allusion to the testimony of Cristina, that the police are always badly spoken of. I do not think I have spoken ill of the police. If there was any need for such a course, if duty compelled me to do so, I would have done it freely. I only said that it was of great importance to the police, that it was of great advantage to the witness Cristina himself, that a crime committed in Strada Reale, a crime committed near the place where Cristina was stationed, a crime committed at mid-day, should appear as having been witnessed by the police. It is the duty of the police to avert and prevent crimes, and it would be a monstrous shame, if at that hour, if on that day, in that place, that deed not being foreseen, not prevented, had not even been witnessed. I therefore consider that any one of the members of police who should depose on this fact, and especially the one who was charged to prevent the commission of offences in the part where he was stationed, in saying that he had not even seen the crime committed, would throw on himself a serious fault, a great abuse. Therefore I argued that the constable Cristina was interested in saying that he saw some one commit the crime. He spoke of a blow, and does not know where it struck the wounder, he does not know in what position the calesse was. This induced me to think that his deposition could not give the necessary certainty to enable you to declare the prisoner guilty.

Provocation was also spoken of. It was stated that it could not be said that there was provocation in this case. I did not speak, gentlemen, of provocation. When I described the pitiful state of the prisoner and of his family, I believed and supposed, and I am firmly convinced, that I said the truth. You have heard that whilst the boat was hauled up on shore, the prisoner sold the boat, and that his wife having then seen herself deprived of that necessary object wherewith to be supported in life, co-operated with the witness Mifsud in order to have the boat returned. Therefore he was in a miserable state, being obliged to sell the thing with which he obtained subsistence. It is known that a fortnight's suspension for a man to be prohibited from working, and thus prevented from earning his daily bread, and that of four of his own children, and other three children of a sister, comprising the latter and a wife, such suspension produced deplorable consequences—a loss is not easily re-acquired; and of course he incurred debts. And if he had his boat hauled up for 15 days, the consequences of his sufferings, and of not being able to work, must have remained fixed in his mind. And this man in his mode of thinking, saw himself in some manner positively persecuted by the guardians, and by the marine police. The occurrences at Marsamuscetto have been recounted to you, when on a feast day he was prohibited from working in his boat with a boy, whilst others were permitted to work even without any companion. You know that some time afterwards, he was reproached by another employèe of the marine police because he had no lantern, and afterwards he was called and reproached because he was not ready to convey some military men, having gone to light the lantern; and the subaltern on guard threatened to report him to the department. On the following day the prisoner went to the office, but no complaint was laid against him, because the same guardian said there was no cause to make it. His poor condition, the deprivation of work, his numerous family, which he was obliged to maintain, have absolutely caused an impression on this individual. I was saying that it is possible, even very probable, that he made such confession, in which I do not know who would place any faith in it, and I do not know who can consider it as proof, when he was induced to make it by hatred towards that man, whom he thought was the cause of his misfortunes, without however having himself committed that crime; but only boasting of having taken revenge, which in my opinion it has not been proved was committed by him. It was said that all these circumstances would imply premeditation, but I think I need not reply to this. Of this there is no mention in the indictment; there is no such word in it as premeditation, therefore whatever has been said about premeditation, which is not stated in the indictment submitted to you, you cannot take any notice of it, and I do not therefore reply thereto.

You have also been told that a confession not extorted by threats, not procured by promises, leaves no doubt of itself. It was also said, I think by the Crown Advocate, that such a confession is incited by all the laws. I had told you, and I repeat it, that in being allowed by the law to accept a confession as proof, and in the obligation of admitting a confession as proof, there is a difference. The law to which the Crown Advocate referred, says, that whatever confession, not extorted, not procured by menaces and threats, can be accepted as proof. However it is not a duty imposed on you by the laws, but a faculty which it accords.

accords. You may therefore either accept or reject it. And it rests with you to declare and decide, whether you admit or not, because you can accept, and you can reject it. If I were to tell you that you must declare the prisoner innocent, this would be my duty, a necessity; but if I were to tell you that you can declare him innocent, that is leaving it for you to decide, either to find him innocent or guilty. You are not absolutely compelled to accept the confession as proof; you can either accept or reject it.

It was also said in substance, that the constables who have deposed on the confession, have related the same thing, although with some difference in words, because none of them studied what he had to say, as if it were a lesson, to come in Court and recite the same; therefore it was deduced that there was a diversity of words. I say that the diversity of words, when they regard the fact of some indifferent contravention, would be nothing; but when an act like the present one is in question, when the life of a father of a family is at stake, when there is a case of wilful homicide, I think that the diversity of words signify something, I think that you ought to give that diversity of words its due weight.

The Public Prosecutor has also said that he did not adduce any argument about the knife, and that in consequence I brought forward the species of conjectures about it, and of which I have spoken. It is true that in his speech, when he was addressing you, he did not speak of the knife; but it is also true that he showed it to all the witnesses he thought proper, and to all the medical gentlemen engaged in the dissection. I could not therefore be silent about the knife, although the Crown Advocate did not mention it in his address, and said nothing about it in the indictment; still he spoke of it to all the witnesses, and gathered proofs regarding the knife in his own mode of acting. It was further said that the witnesses who had said in the Court of Instruction that this knife likewise served for cutting bread, were not now produced, because such proof regarding the knife was not needful to him. It may be true that it is of little importance to him, but I cannot refrain from mentioning that it was said that the knife of which the medical men spoke, was also of service in cutting bread, and that it was usual to use such knife for cutting bread, and was found in the power of the prisoner at that hour of mid-day.

I spoke of the irregularity of the acts of instruction—I could not pass them in silence, I could not be silent when several most important documents in the act of production were not certified by the magistrate, and consequently the Crown Advocate remitted the acts for their regular completion. Therefore when I said so I was stating a truth. These documents were afterwards acknowledged by the medical gentlemen. Very well, but the irregularity existed; it may not be the fault of the Crown Advocate, but it was wrong to accept these documents which were not made according to the forms prescribed by the law.

The wound was spoken of. I think I can say but little now about the wound, after what you have heard. I already explained to you that the medical gentlemen produced by the Crown Advocate regarding the nature of the wound, the time of the inflammation, do not agree amongst themselves, and it is unnecessary for me to repeat what I have already said. Dr. Chetcuti deposed to have observed inflammation eight hours after that Captain Graves had been wounded, and Dr. Simpson says that he did not notice symptoms of inflammation before the 27th of August. This contradiction is between the medical men produced by the Crown Advocate. Some of these same medical gentlemen have not seen the wound, some saw the wound, others did not see it at all. My witnesses could never have seen it, because they were not the medical attendants. Amongst the witnesses produced on the part of the prosecution there are those who say that the wound is mortal, some say that it is generally mortal, others that it is mortal in a majority of cases. What certainty have you therefore on this point? What certainty have you in this essential point when you see that the medical gentlemen produced on the opposite side do not agree? There is a difference, because every one has a different mode of treating—some cure in one way, others in another. Dr. Calleja said that he did not consider that wound absolutely mortal; but it seems to me that, from what you have heard, the opinion of Dr. Portelli, a man of his experience, and who states that he has cured wounds of the same nature and quality, although he has not seen the wound in this case, I think that his precise opinion should quiet the mind of any one. We must all agree with what he said, that the wound was not mortal in its nature. He has disapproved the method of treatment. It is true he did not witness the symptoms; but the symptoms which he did not see were related by the medical attendant; if he has not seen the wound he has heard all the particulars from Dr. Simpson. He said that the wound could and should have been cured; he disapproved the method of treatment; he says that the method adopted would cause death; and in a clearer manuer than Dr. Portelli it was repeated by Dr. Laferla. Now when Dr. Portelli and Dr. Laferla, who have cured it is not known how many cases of this nature, say so, it appears to me that there is sufficient ground for agreeing with their opinion. Again, if there should remain any doubt, and this doubt should arise not only from what the medical gentlemen produced by me for the defence said, but also those on the part of the prosecution, such doubt will not allow you to find that death was absolutely caused by the wound. The Crown Advocate also said that when voluntary homicide is in question, and death ensues, it is not necessary to go in search of other causes by which death might have occurred; and he further said that if the wounded man should die through want of medical attendance, the wounder would always be guilty of wilful homicide. It appears to me that this proposition is very vague, and that there ought to be some distinction. Supposing that a wound has been inflicted on a person, a wound which does not carry death, a wound not necessarily mortal, a wound which admits of healing, as stated by the medical gentlemen, and this wound left to itself, or made worse by improper treatment, has developed, assisted,

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or caused inflammation, then the effects of that bad cure, of those accidents or circumstances, independent of the will of the wounder, are to be attributed to the wounder, according to the opinion of the Crown Advocate? Certainly not. We must consider the state of the wound, we must consider whether the death was caused by the wound. It is said that inflammation caused the death. But that inflammation could be cured, it was curable. The treatment was disapproved of; Dr. Laferla deposed that he attributed death to the treatment, consequently death cannot any longer be attributable to the wound.

The Crown Advocate praised the statement of Dr. Pisani, who said that the books do not speak of fatal cases. But this, gentlemen, is contradicting the fact. I am sorry that I cannot produce the books. The authors distinguish between curable wounds and incurable ones, to which death necessarily succeeds. There would not be any distinction of wounds if it was not said which are curable and which are incurable, and in reporting mortal wounds necessarily mortal cases would be reported, and the books on medical science are full of mortal wounds, of dangerous wounds, and of wounds dangerous for accidents. What the medical gentlemen said on the part of the prosecution, and who do not all agree among themselves regarding the wound, added to what Dr. Portelli said, grounded on long experience, as well in the military service as in the civil hospital, is sufficient to make you certain of the nature of the wound; and in any event the doubt which there might be should always be given in favour of the prisoner; and in this case we have at least a doubt, if the case is looked at in its worst aspect (although the depositions of Drs. Portelli and Laferla do not leave any difficulty, leave no doubt), but in case of doubt, between the different opinions of the medical gentlemen produced by the public prosecutor and those for the defence, there would be sufficient reason not to find the wound as it is considered in the indictment.

The Judge, in addressing the Jury, said:—Now that the Crown Advocate and the Advocate for the defence have fulfilled their respective duties, it is my painful duty to address you shortly for the administration of that justice which it is bounden on me to administer in conjunction with you, and which I have, as well as you, sworn to administer.

I will not detain you with lengthy observations, and I will not occupy your time more than is necessary to guide you in the fulfilment of your duties; and, as far as my feeble strength, and the very poor state of health in which I am will allow me, I will make the most simple and most brief, and as far as possible clear, observations to you.

However before coming to these observations, which in an important case like the present it is my imperious duty to make, I think it proper to offer you several serious admonitions.

In the first place, I must advise you to have nothing else under your eyes excepting the indictment laid before you, and that you should only see whether or not the proofs adduced on behalf of the prosecution confirm that indictment, and whether or not the proofs which have been adduced on behalf of the accused destroy some part of that indictment.

It has been remarked by the defender of the accused that the indictment is not drawn in terms sufficiently clear, and that it contains superfluous words. As regards this I must say that you have no cause to enter into this exception. If the Advocate for the accused saw that the indictment contained and contains some defect, on which the jurors could not give their decision, it was his duty to state this defect to the Court before the trial of the cause. The Court would then have seen whether or no these defects existed; and if there really exists any defect, the Advocate of the accused can allege it at some other stage of the proceedings before the Court. For the present it is sufficient for me to tell you that there is no obstacle in the indictment to prevent you proceeding to give your judgment thereon. If any defect should exist in the indictment, a circumstance of fact on which I do not intend at this moment to explain myself in order not to prejudice the rights of the parties to the cause, this defect might be alleged in some other stage of the proceedings, and therefore the accused will not be in any manner injured in his rights.

Another admonition which I must give you is, that you should dismiss from your mind the reflection made by the Crown Advocate, regarding the atrocity of the crime. In general terms, it is certain that there is not a crime more atrocious, and that is a crime the most serious which human malice could invent. But this is not a circumstance which should operate in you to the disadvantage of the prisoner. If you should be of opinion that he is not guilty of the crime, be the atrocity of the crime whatever it may—this circumstance is insignificant. Neither should you have in sight those pathetic expressions which were used by the advocate of the accused, to infuse into you a sentiment of pity and mercy towards the accused. If you are convinced that he is guilty, all that has been said to you respecting the state of his family, and his poverty, as well as other circumstances, should not be in the least taken into consideration by you; these circumstances cannot in the least influence the guilt or innocence of the accused.

I must further tell you, before coming to the details of my observations, that you should not mind anything but the proofs, which, whether against or in favour of the accused, have been brought before you in public court, in this cause. You should banish from your mind all that you, perchance, have read in any journal. You should not think of anything else than to judge that unhappy man on the proofs which have been brought before you, whether in favour or against him.

It is also my duty to inform you, that, in regard to the facts, you are exclusively the judges. It rests with you to decide on the existence or non-existence of the facts submitted to you in the indictment, according to your inward conviction. Whatever the opinions are

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that have been given in this case, either by the Crown Advocate, or on the part of the accused, they should not influence your minds in the least. You are to decide according to your inward conviction; you alone are the judges of the facts; and to be convinced of what you are about to decide, is that which the law requires of you.

Lastly, I must state, that as regards the rules of law, which I shall shortly point out to you, I alone am the judge. It is your duty to judge by those rules which I shall instruct you are established in law; and if you recede from those rules, which, as judge, I shall tell you are established in law, you will take on yourselves, without any doubt, a heavy responsibility before the law, before God, and before the tribunal of public opinion; you will have to answer before God, and before the public, for any transgression of these rules, which I am about to lay down.

These brief observations being premised, I will proceed, in the first place, to recapitulate the proofs which have been adduced, as well on the part of the accused, as on the part of the prosecution; and I will make such observations on these proofs as I shall consider necessary.

I will not occupy your time with a recapitulation of the proofs of little importance. I noticed with pleasure that several of you, and especially the foreman, whose good sense and intelligence I have experienced on other occasions, have taken notes of the testimony of the witnesses; and, therefore, it will only be expedient for me to remark to you the consistency of the proofs.

I must only say, that the proofs produced by the parties in this case, are of two species; some produced by the Crown Advocate, consists of written documents, others in testimony; and the proofs adduced in favour of the accused are of the same kinds. The documents in writing produced by the Crown Advocate consist of a sentence of the police magistrates, by which the accused was, on the 24th July last, condemned to twenty-four hours' detention, for having contravened the regulations of the port; of a complaint made by a military officer against the accused, who had refused to accept the fare for his boat which the officer tendered; and in a book produced by the actual superintendent of the ports, and which is called the Defaulters' Book. In this book the decision which Captain Graves gave is noted down, on the occasion of the complaint made against the accused by the officer; and in this book it is seen that Captain Graves gave such decision, as stated in the same book, after having seen the complaint made by the officer, and after having heard the accused himself, who, as was explained by the witnesses Inglott and Aloisio, had admitted the contravention with which he was charged. The witness, Mr. Inglott, said, that in the book there are several forms which Captain Graves used to adopt. He said that there was noted in the book, "Charge allowed;" those words signified that the offender had acknowledged the accusation. In the same book note is made of those cases in which Captain Graves heard the witnesses, and those in which no witnesses were heard. Besides these documents, the Crown Advocate produced two confessions which the accused made before the magistrate of police. These confessions of the accused will also be submitted to you, and they must be maturely examined by you. From the tenor of those confessions you will gather that they were made by the accused, after the magistrate had explained to him the nature of the charge which had been brought against him; after he had warned him that it was not bounden on him to answer; and after the magistrate had warned him, that whatever he said should be written down, and could be produced as proof against him. Some remarks, on behalf of the accused, were made against these confessions. It was said, that although according to the provisions of the law, confessions, especially those made before the magistrate, can be produced as proof; the law, however, does not oblige those who are to judge the facts to accept those confessions. It is true the law entrusts to you the weight which should be given to confessions; it rests with you to value the words which are contained in the confessions; but, certainly, it also rests with you, in valuing the words of a confession, to judge whether the interpretation which it is wished to give thereto, is adapted to the actual case, and whether it is compatible with other proofs which have been produced in the case. You have been told, that if you give credit to one part of the confession, you are bound, according to the law, to give credit to the whole confession; this in law does not exist. You can give credit to the confession, in such parts as you may think that the confession merits belief; but, if from other evidence produced, if from the context itself of the confession, it results that a part of what the accused said is not true, that it is not consistent with the other proofs and circumstances appearing in the case, then that part of the confession may not be taken into consideration.

Speaking of the witnesses examined, I must instruct you that the law leaves to you the weight which should be given to the depositions of the witnesses. The law does not exact that more witnesses should be produced in a case; be the number of witnesses whatever it may, it is indifferent. The law only expects that the jurors will give credit to the testimony. However, it is necessary that the jurors should not lose sight of all the circumstances moving in the case; and if the testimony of the witnesses is confirmed by other proofs duly adduced in the case, there is no doubt but that the jurors are to form their opinion on the depositions of the witnesses. When the testimony is corroborated by several witnesses, and by the confessions of the accused, it is proper to rely on the depositions of the witnesses.

In premising these general observations, which, owing to the particular nature of the case, it is necessary to make, I shall now remark on what is necessary, according to law, in order that you, supposing that you are convinced of the facts, may be able to declare whether the accused is guilty or not guilty of the crime with which he is charged.

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According to the act of indictment submitted to you, the crime of wilful homicide is imputed to the accused. This premised, it is evident that your duty is to verify whether the proofs made can justify the conclusion that there has been wilful homicide in this case. What is requisite, according to law, in order to constitute a wilful homicide? According to law, there is wilful homicide if an individual maliciously, with intention to kill, or even with intention to put the life of another in manifest danger, causes the death of another. This is the legal definition of wilful homicide. From this you cannot, and should not depart. It is only your right to investigate whether the proofs adduced can carry the consequences, that the requisites provided in the law concur with the case, in order that it might be said that a voluntary homicide is proved. From the definition which I have given you, it is clear, that to be able to determine whether there has been wilful homicide or not, it is necessary, in the first place, that you have satisfactory proof that Captain Graves has been wounded in the manner described in the indictment; secondly, that Captain Graves is dead; thirdly, that the wound caused the death of Captain Graves; fourthly, that the stab was inflicted by the prisoner; fifthly, that the prisoner inflicted the wound maliciously; sixthly, or lastly, that the prisoner, if he inflicted the wound, had inflicted it with the intention of putting the life of Captain Graves in manifest danger. If you are convinced, by the proofs adduced, that all these elements of the crime are to be found in this case, you cannot do otherwise than declare the accused guilty. On the other hand, if any one of these elements is wanting, it is your positive duty to find him not guilty, at least in the terms of the indictment.

Let us now see whether the proofs adduced go to show that all these elements exist in the present case.

That Captain Graves has been wounded, the first element of the crime of which we speak, it seems cannot be placed in doubt, neither on the part of the accused. The defender of the accused declared from the beginning, that he did not dispute the wounding. And if he had questioned it, this circumstance would appear by the evidence given; they would result from the acts of the *accesso* made on the occasion of the death of Captain Graves; it would result from the testimony of the medical gentlemen who saw and visited Captain Graves; and this same important circumstance also results from the evidence of the witnesses produced by the accused, and by the deposition of the magistrate, Dr. Zammit, who stated that Captain Graves, himself, declared before him on oath that he had been wounded. Therefore it is easy, by giving a glance at the testimony and the proofs produced, to say if this first requisite of the crime is found to exist in the case.

The second requisite is the death; as regards this, it is not necessary to say anything. It is a point of fact in which there can be no controversy whatever.

The third point which must be examined with maturity and with special attention, is whether the death of Captain Graves was caused by the wound, or not; whether Captain Graves died in consequence of the probable and natural consequences of the wound, or not. In respect to this most important point in the case, many witnesses have been produced, as well by the Crown Advocate as by the advocate for the accused; and it rests with your good sense, to your religion, to deliberate on what all these witnesses have deposed. In the first place, Dr. Clinquant has been examined on this subject. This gentleman had opportunities of seeing Captain Graves, from the first moment that he was wounded, and to have afterwards (if I remember well) seen him; and he further says, that he was present at the dissection of the body. And although, according to his opinion, the wound was not absolutely mortal, in the case, however, looking at the state in which he was at the time when it was inflicted, he says, that it was dangerous for the consequences; and he, therefore, came to the conclusion that the death of Captain Graves should be attributed to this wound, and that Captain Graves died from inflammation, the effect of the wound. All the other medical gentlemen who have been produced on the part of the Crown Advocate concur, in substance, with this opinion. Dr. Giuseppe Baldassare Sammut, who was also one of the first to see the wound, concurs in this opinion; likewise Dr. Stilon, who, if I remember well, said that he visited Captain Graves on the day preceding his death. Dr. Simpson, the medical attendant of Captain Graves, also concurs therein; and the other medical gentlemen who were present at the *post mortem* examination, also concur in this opinion. These gentlemen are of accord in stating that Captain Graves died in consequence of inflammation caused by the wound. In confirmation of the opinion of these gentlemen, several of whom had the opportunity of seeing Captain Graves alive, and some of them after the death; in confirmation of the opinion of these gentlemen, other experts have been produced, and who, after having heard what the medical gentlemen, who saw deceased at a time when he was living, and who saw the wound on the occasion of the dissection, said, concur in their opinion, and say that the death of Captain Graves is attributable to inflammation, the effect of the wound. From these it is necessary that you except Dr. Simpson, of the Royal Navy, who has this day declared, that he never had occasion to treat similar wounds, and therefore, not being expert on this subject matter, I must inform you that his deposition should not be taken into consideration by you.

In opposition to what these medical gentlemen said, other professors were produced on behalf of the accused, and the merits of whom are well known to us. These gentlemen agree, as regards the substance, with the opinion of the other doctors, in saying that the wound was not absolutely, or of a nature, mortal; and all agree in saying that the wound was dangerous, at least for the consequences. Only Dr. Felice Grech said that that wound was of the less dangerous. These gentlemen disapproved, speaking generally, the method of treatment adopted by Dr. Simpson; and said that, according to their opinion, they would have

have adopted quite a different method of treatment; but they all concluded in saying that they spoke of cases generally, and that in special cases they would have adapted themselves to the circumstances of the special case. On this a question arose; for the accused, it is contended that in this case the death of Captain Graves cannot be attributed to the wound, but to other causes. If I have rightly understood, it is contended that the death of Captain Graves should not be attributed to the wound spoken of; in the first place, because the wound was not absolutely, or as others have expressed themselves, of a nature, mortal; in the second place, because Captain Graves had a chronic inflammation in the liver (a circumstance on which no stress was laid, but it was lightly touched on); in the third place, because Captain Graves had committed some irregularity in moving himself, and in his mode of action, and for having been placed in a carriage; and fourthly, because the method of treatment was improper.

If I have rightly understood, it is on these grounds that the defender of the accused bases himself, in order to support his view of the case, that death should not be attributed to the wound, but to other causes.

Before addressing you on the facts, it is necessary that I should offer some observations on a point of law.

In order to prove that homicide exists, nothing else is necessary but that it should be proved to those who are to decide on the facts that death was the consequence of the wound; that the death ensued owing to the wound, or in consequence of the probable and natural consequences of the wound. The law, with respect to homicide, in a case of wounding committed with the intention to kill, or to place the life of another in manifest danger, does not make any distinction between severe wounds and slight wounds; it does not distinguish between wounds absolutely mortal, or of a mortal nature, and dangerous. The law only requires the concurrence of these two requisites; that is, that a wound or other hurt should be committed with intention to kill, and that death should have positively taken place in consequence of such hurt. The law has not established, that in order to say there is a voluntary homicide, it is necessary that the wounds should be absolutely mortal. The law has only required that, in the case in particular which might be in question, it is proved to the satisfaction of those who are to judge the fact that death ensued in that case, owing to the probable and natural consequences of the wound. When the act of wounding, not followed by death, is in question, there is room for those distinctions between the different species of wounds, having regard to their gravity, but when death ensues those distinctions are not made. When the question is of homicide, the law considers the wound in the special case, looks at the fact of the wound, does not lose itself in arguments, as the doctors do, on what might have happened, but only looks at what has happened. And if death ensues, and it results from the natural consequence of the wound, there is sufficient to find homicide proved. Cases may happen in which the wound inflicted is considered almost unworthy the attention of a medical man; yet, if it was inflicted with the intention to kill, and to place the life of another in manifest danger, this is sufficient, if death ensues from the wound, in order to find that homicide is proved. A wound on the person of a robust youth might be a hurt of little harm, and sometimes doctors are not called in to cure it. But if inflicted on a child, or an old or dying man, it might prove fatal. Now, if death ensues in such a case there is sufficient, the intention to kill being proved, to say that homicide has been committed. The law, in cases of homicide, does not even consider the constitution of the individual, it does not even regard the state of the wound. Whether the case is that of a robust, a sick, or a dying man, if death succeeds there is room for a declaration of the offence of homicide. If a man already lingering, even near death, is deprived of only a minute, of only a moment, of life, this is sufficient for it to be said that homicide has been committed. If the slightest wound is inflicted upon the person of a dying man, and he, in consequence of such wound, expires before the time which the Almighty had destined, there is no doubt that a finding of guilty of homicide would be justifiable. The state of the person wounded need not be established, and is unnecessary before the law. It is an accident to be an invalid, or to be robust. And if the wound is committed on the sick man, that circumstance must not serve as an excuse to the wounder, nay, it is more reprehensible to kill a helpless man. And consequently if one minute alone of life is taken away from him, the person who takes it, although an act which if committed on another person would be of slight moment, would always be guilty of homicide.

It was said that Captain Graves had committed some imprudence in his mode of action. Whether this fact has been proved or not remains for you to judge. It only appears, that as soon as he entered the dispensary of Dr. Sammut he seated himself; that those gentlemen attended to dress the wound; that they recommended him to go home in a carriage; that they warned the driver to drive at a slow pace, and that immediately on arrival at his house he was put to bed, and that he did not rise from the bed excepting for some natural want. Not because a man moves at the time when wounded, and is conveyed in a carriage, can the person who inflicted the wound be exonerated. Even further, supposing that the unfortunate person wounded was not enabled, had not the opportunity, to find a medical gentleman, it cannot exonerate the wounder from the charge of homicide. It may happen in many cases that doctors cannot be procured; in many cases it may happen that med cal gentlemen cannot be found able to cure any wound which they may be called on to treat; these, however, are not circumstances which exonerate the person who inflicts the wound, with intention to kill, from the guilt of homicide. The method of treatment was spoken of. The mode of treatment adopted by Dr. Simpson has been approved, as results from the depositions of all the witnesses produced on the part of the Crown Advocate, and particularly by those doctors who had occasion to see the patient when alive, and also after his death. In consequence of this

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this approval on the part of all the doctors who were produced by the Crown Advocate, it will fall on you to see how far the weight of exception in regard to the method of treatment should be extended.

Several doctors, on the part of the accused, disapproved the method of treatment adopted; but they all added that they disapproved that method, according to their own way of thinking; and they concluded by saying, that in curing they would have allowed themselves to be guided by the circumstances. It is a positive fact that none of these doctors saw Captain Graves, neither living, nor after his death. It therefore rests with the good sense and the conscience of the jurors to see to which of those opinions they should give the preference. In any case, even supposing some defect existed in the method of treatment, a defect which owing to the uncertainty of medical science candidly admitted by Dr. Laferla, can with difficulty be taken into consideration, the opinions being as numerous, in common, as the doctors are; supposing, I say, this defect in the method of treatment exists, it is necessary for me to remark that according to law, any defect (supposing its existence, which will be for you to judge) in the mode of cure, would also leave the duty of it to those who judge the facts, to see whether or not death should be attributed exclusively to such defect. If you can say that Captain Graves has been killed by the method of treatment adopted by Dr. Simpson, it is certain that death cannot be said to have been produced by the wound. But if you are not certain of this, if there is not positive proof that the method of treatment has been the cause of the death, you cannot certainly separate yourselves from the conclusion arrived at by all the medical gentlemen produced by the Crown Advocate, all of whom have assured you, that the death should not be attributed to the mode of cure, but to inflammation, the effect of the wound. Besides this, you should not even lose sight of what was said by the most learned medical gentleman, Dr. Chetcuti. He assured you, on his oath, that 10 hours after the wounding, he considered that the wound was mortal. These are the proofs which were made in the case, whether in favour or against the accused, and these are the observations which I was bound to make according to law; and it rests with you to decide whether death was the consequence of the wound in this case.

But this is not sufficient to enable you to declare the guilt of the prisoner proved. It is necessary that you be convinced, that other most important circumstances concur against the accused, and which were placed in doubt by the Advocate for the accused. In order to see whether or not the accused was the wounder of Captain Graves, it is necessary that you should examine with care the proofs which were brought against him.

The calesse-man Pace was produced, and he said, that on the day the wounding occurred, he was waiting with his calesse near the door of the Treasury; that he was approached by a man who spoke to him about the early departure of Captain Graves; that whilst he was opening the door of the calesse, and in the act of stooping to let the step down, he felt something like the push of a man, between himself and Captain Graves; that he saw a man run, and that this man was arrested. He said that he did not know the accused, but added that he recognised him before the magistrate by his clothes. The person who was before the magistrate is the same person who was arrested by the constables, the same, after whom Captain Graves ran, and who is this day before you.

Further, another witness was produced, the policeman Cristina. Exceptions have been made against this constable, as regards the credibility he merits. Cristina says that he saw the prisoner give a blow; that he saw Captain Graves put his hand to his belly, and at the same time cry out, Police, Police; that he saw him run after the man who had struck him; and of having himself and another constable run after the man, who was arrested by the policeman Farrugia; and lastly, he said that that man is the prisoner. The credit which the witnesses merit depends on the weight which you can give their depositions. It rests with you to give the testimony its just weight. But it is clear that if a good reason is not alleged, why you cannot and should not give credit to a witness, it is not lawful for you to discredit him. Therefore, if you find that what Cristina has said is corroborated by other witnesses, and the declarations themselves of the accused, there is no reason for not crediting his testimony. The deposition of Cristina is confirmed by the other witnesses, Pace and Farrugia; by Farrugia, who said that he arrested the man after whom Captain Graves was running; and by Pace, as he said that he saw the prisoner speak to the calesse-man, and heard him make some remarks about the departure of Captain Graves for England. This witness removes any doubt made by the calesse-driver regarding the identity. This witness says in positive terms that the man who was speaking to the driver was the same man who was arrested. You have the deposition of the same Cristina, of Pace, of Farrugia, of Psaila, and of Sergeant Spagna and others, all of whom said that the accused himself spontaneously admitted and confessed to be the wounder of Captain Graves. Besides these witnesses, and besides the confessions of the accused, it is also very lamentable that you have now what was said by Captain Graves to the magistrate Zammit. What did Captain Graves say to magistrate Zammit? He said, that at the moment he was about to enter the calesse, he was attacked by a man unknown to him, but whom he would have known on again seeing him; he said, that he, Captain Graves, began to cry out, Police, Police, murder, murder; he said that he followed that man, and he said that that man was arrested by a policeman, the person arrested by the constable, is the accused. It is therefore clear, if you believe the witnesses, that accused is the wounder of Captain Graves; a circumstance of fact which the law requires should be clearly proved.

Besides this important circumstance, it is also necessary that you should be convinced that the homicide, if it has been committed by the accused at the bar, was maliciously committed. A few remarks have been addressed to you on the part of the accused, at least in particulars, on this circumstance. The word maliciously is the word of the law, which signifies

fies that who commits the deed knows that it is prohibited by law, and who notwithstanding this, wishes to commit it. Therefore, if you are convinced that when the prisoner, if he wounded Captain Graves, knew that the deed committed by him was an act prohibited by the law, and he wanted to commit it, there is no doubt whatever that this requisite concurs in the case. That a reasonable man, in the full possession of his intellectual faculties, should not know that wounding is an act prohibited by law, it is impossible to suppose. And that he wanted to commit this act must be inferred from the concurrent circumstances of the case. According to law, when homicide is in question, the homicide is presumed to be committed maliciously, unless the party who says it has not been committed maliciously, proves that the contrary was the case at the time in which he committed it, in the full possession of his intellectual faculties, and that he committed it by accident by some misfortune or through neglect. Here in this case nothing was even said about accidents, misfortune, or neglect; there was no doubt whatever brought forward on the part of the accused; and therefore, if you are satisfied that at the time in which the accused, if it was him who wounded Captain Graves, he wounded at a time when he was in full possession of his senses, he was able to reason, he distinguished good from evil, and knew what the law prohibited, you must conclude that the homicide was committed maliciously. Whether he wanted to commit homicide you must infer, independently from this inference, from the circumstances, from what accused himself said in his confessions, and from what the witnesses, if you place credit in their depositions, said had been confessed before them by the accused himself. He went after Captain Graves, and followed him from the Marina to the secretary's offices; he waited for him; he attacked him from behind, and wounded him. These circumstances necessarily convey that he wanted to stab Captain Graves. That Captain Graves was stabbed by the person who wounded him from behind was said by Captain Graves himself, who stated that he was attacked from behind. These are circumstances which, if proved to your satisfaction, I see that by law they are more than sufficient to prove the malice, to prove that the wounder acted with the intention to kill, and to put the life of Captain Graves in manifest danger.

It resulted, and this you can gather from the testimony produced, and particularly from the complaint itself of Captain Greaves, that the prisoner inflicted two blows, of which one did not penetrate, and the other penetrated. That Captain Graves was wounded with a pointed knife is positive, and it is also positive that he was wounded in the belly. If these facts are proved to your satisfaction, if you are convinced of these facts, I can say nothing more than that these facts carry with them the intention to kill, because whoever gives two blows with a pointed knife in a vital part, the belly, has the intention to kill; and even should you not be satisfied that the intention to kill exists in this case, but only the intention to place the life of Captain Graves in manifest danger, this would be sufficient. The law does not absolutely require an intention to kill; the law is satisfied, if the intention to place the life of another in manifest danger is proved. It remains therefore to be seen, whether giving two blows in the belly with a pointed knife carries with it in this case a consequence that the wounder had the intention to place the life of another in manifest danger.

On this circumstance of the intention to kill, or to place the life of Captain Graves in manifest danger, it is also necessary that you examine the confession of the accused; not only the confession which he made before the witnesses, but also that which he made before the Magistrate of Police after the warning given him that he was not bound to answer, and that whatever he said could be produced in evidence against him. He, notwithstanding this, always said that he wanted to kill Captain Graves.

Regarding this confession, however, most important doubts were raised, and on which it is necessary to make some remarks.

You have been told it is impossible that a man in the possession of his senses should confess his guilt, with the knowledge that the inevitable consequence of such guilt is the most terrible of punishments. In regard to this I must remark that it has not been alleged in positive terms that the accused is mad, or devoid of his intellectual faculties. This is not brought forward. If it should be pretended that the accused at this moment has lost his intellectual faculties, he could not have been judged; another demand would have been made in favour of the accused. The first question moved would have been whether he could be subjected to the charge if he was in such state. Nothing of this sort was advanced, nor is it pretended. Therefore it is certain, it is indubitable, that the accused at this moment is in the possession of his intellectual faculties. Assuming that the accused at this moment is in full possession of his intellectual faculties, it is the duty of whoever alleges the want of the intellectual faculties, to prove that in some mode whatever, and especially at the time in which it is stated the crime was committed, he who committed it was not in full possession of his faculties. It can never be presumed that any man is devoid of his intellectual faculties. It is necessary that such loss of senses should be proved in a clear manner, and conclusive, without leaving any doubt whatever. It is positive, in order to say that the crime is not imputable, it would be necessary according to law, that whoever should allege the want of intellectual faculties, should prove that at the time the crime was committed the man was not in a state of mind to distinguish good from evil, he knew not what he was doing, that he was committing a wicked act, a deed prohibited by law, such as to commit homicide; that in the act of committing the deed he was a man acting like a brute, a savage beast. It will be your duty to see if these proofs have been made, and if circumstances appear, from which you can assert exclusion of this loss of mental faculties at the time of the crime. You will consider the circumstance that accused tracked Captain Graves, and stopped to await him; you will take into consideration that he attacked him,

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and that after attacking him—a circumstance deserving the greatest notice—he took to flight. You are bound, therefore, to see if this is compatible with a man deprived of his intellectual faculties—deprivation which was not alleged in explicit terms, but of which some mention was made on the part of the accused. I could perhaps make some other observation, but it seems that this is sufficient, and I wished to tell you that, from what has been said, you should not adopt some conclusion prejudicial to the administration of justice. You should not lose sight of the testimony of Dr. Felice Calleja, who deposed that he visited accused shortly after his arrest, and also a day after, and to have always found him in possession of his intellectual faculties. No witness has been produced to deny this circumstance; it has only been alleged, just for argument sake, that it is impossible that a reasonable man can confess his guilt. Let us see whether from the confession alone it can be inferred, that he who confesses is devoid of his intellectual faculties. This circumstance of fact must be decided by you. But it must be observed that these confessions were made after the arrest of the prisoner; they were made (speaking of the confessions made to the constables) after the prisoner found himself in their hands. The confession before the magistrate was made after all the witnesses against him had been heard. You will consider this circumstance. Besides this circumatance, which you will gather, you have been told of agitation of mind—if I have well understood the defender—in which the accused was when he committed the deed—if he committed it. You were told that he was labouring under the impression of the remembrance of the evils which his unfortunate family suffered, accusing Captain Graves, justly or unjustly, as it might be. You were told that on several occasions he was ill-treated by the officers of the Marine police. On these facts the argument was based, that when the prisoner wounded Captain Graves—if he ever wounded him—he was in a state of agitation. Supposing that the accused had been in a state of agitation of mind, it would always be your painful duty to verify, whether a simple agitation of mind, for motives like these, could carry an excuse in a case of homicide. No such agitation of mind renders homicide excusable. It is certain that any offender is under some agitation of mind. But this species of agitation of mind is not excused by the laws, unless the requisites of the law itself concur therein. What are the requisites prescribed by the law, in order to admit an excuse founded on agitation of the mind?

The requisites of the law are:—that this agitation of mind, whatever the motive may be, just or unjust, should have arisen in the mind of the killer at almost the same time of the commission of the act. If the agitation is not instantaneous, if the provocation was not given at the same moment as the homicide, this agitation of mind is not to be calculated for the ends of justice. If the act were committed contemporaneously with the injury, there may be an excuse. But if it takes place at a time distant from that of the injury, the law does not admit any excuse; in such case, whatever the length of time may be the guilty man has had time to reflect, therefore he is not at all excusable if he commits a crime. You are consequently bound to see whether it can be said that any agitation arose in this case at the moment, or whether it was rooted in him some time, in such manner that he might have reflected on the consequences of the crime. And it is to be considered that the fact relative to the boat of the prisoner happened almost 18 days before; that at the time Captain Graves was wounded, if the accused was the wounder his boat had been already some time afloat—that the period of the suspension had expired—that accused on the day preceeding the crime, speaking to an officer of the Marine police, had said, "I have nothing against you, but against that sacramento Captain Graves;" that he abided his time, and knew when Captain Graves was about to leave. You will reflect on the circumstance that he came from the Marina to the secretary's office to await him; you will reflect on the words said by the accused to the calesse-man; you will reflect on the circumstance that he assaulted him from behind, without Captain Graves having said a word to him; and you will reflect on the most important circumstance, that this fact, that Captain Graves was attacked from behind without having spoken to him, results from the statement of Captain Graves himself. The confession itself of the prisoner says, that the provocation, just or unjust as it may be, was given some time before the commission of the deed. In all cases where a deliberate intention is seen, in which the will did not arise at the moment to do wrong, this agitation of the mind, of almost desperation; this excuse of injuries suffered, be they real or not, are insignificant according to law; they are entirely set aside; they cannot be taken into consideration by those who are to administer strict and impartial justice.

In the substance of all that we have said, it is clearly seen which is the resolution, on examining the testimony brought before the Court, you should adopt. If you are convinced that the accused has not wounded Captain Graves, notwithstanding the testimony, and his confession; or if you are convinced that this wounding has been accidental, and not even committed with malice; if you are convinced that the prisoner had no intention to kill, or to place the life of Captain Graves in manifest danger; if you are convinced that the cause of the death of Captain Graves was not the wound, and that death is attributable to other causes, so that it might be said the homicide was not committed by the wounder, but by other persons; if you are convinced of those things you will declare that the charge of which the prisoner has been accused is not proved. If you are convinced that some requisite of the law is wanting for the crime, you must declare that the accused is not guilty. But if you conscientiously believe that all the necessary proofs concur to justify a finding of wilful homicide, then it will be your duty in justice to declare the accused guilty.

The written proofs which were presented in Court shall be laid before you; and, I trust, that

that you will return a verdict which will be consonant with true justice, and which will do honour to you and to your country.

(The jury retired at quarter to Five o'clock, and re-entered the Court at quarter past Six.)

The Registrar.—The Court asks you whether the accused is guilty of what is charged against him in the indictment?

The Foreman.—The jury unanimously declare that the accused, Giuseppe Meli, is guilty; with the circumstance that the death of Captain Thomas Graves did not ensue in consequence of the wound inflicted on him. However, one against eight declares that the accused inflicted the wound with the intention of causing grievous harm.

The Judge.—The latter part is not understood. The other eight exclude grievous harm?

Foreman.—One only says that the prisoner gave the blow with the intention of causing grievous harm. The intention of causing grievous harm is excluded by the other eight.

The Judge.—Eight say that he had not the intention to kill?

Foreman.—Yes, sir. The jury declare Giuseppe Meli guilty.

The Judge.—Guilty of what?

Foreman.—Guilty of wounding.

The Judge.—Do you mean to exclude the charge of wilful homicide?

Foreman.—We are of opinion that Giuseppe Meli wounded Captain Graves, but that the death did not ensue from the wound; and one against eight thinks that he wounded him with the intention of causing grievous harm, and eight do not think so.

The Judge.—Eight say that by inflicting the wound, the accused did not have the intention to kill, or to put the life of Captain Graves in manifest danger. The idea is clear. And how did they consider the wound?

Foreman.—Inasmuch as the jury have declared that death did not ensue from the wound, I suppose it is not declared as dangerous.

The Judge.—The wound might have been most grievous, and the jury could consider that death followed from other causes. If the jurors are of opinion that the wound was slight, so that danger to life did not arise, it is one thing; but if they think that danger to life could arise from the wound, it is another thing. If he might have died, it may be said, grievous wound; if there was no danger to life, it may be said, slight wound.

Foreman.—Then the Jury would not have said this, they would have said——

The Judge.—It is impossible for me to accept a declaration in this manner. I put the following question to you: "Is the accused guilty of grievous harm on the person of Captain Graves, followed by death from an accidental cause supervening, and not from the nature alone and the natural consequences of the wound?"

Foreman.—We have declared that the death of Captain Graves ensued by the bad treatment.

The Judge.—But do you mean to say that the wound was dangerous?

Foreman.—We have not spoken of this.

The Judge.—But it is well that you should speak of it. You must consider whether peril to life arose from the wound, and if you think that with that wound life was imperilled, then it is a serious wound; if there is no danger the wound is slight.

Foreman.—The wound was badly treated, and therefore he died.

The Judge.—But is the wound grievous or slight? In the indictment it is said that Giussppe Meli maliciously committed with the intention of putting the life in manifest danger.

Foreman.—This is excluded.

The Judge.—But the question remains, whether the wounding is grievous or not, and if it might have been followed by death. You say that death ensued, not from the wound, but from other causes, such as the bad treatment; but I ask if this wound in its origin, at the time it was inflicted, was serious or slight? Sig. Registrar, read the question again.

(The Registrar reads the before-mentioned question to the Jury.)

The Judge.—The wounds are either grievous or slight; and therefore you must declare whether the wounding in its origin was grievous or slight. It is a serious wound when the wound puts the life of the wounded man in peril; it is slight when there is no such risk. Therefore if the wound inflicted on Captain Graves, in your judgment, was such as to put the life of Captain Graves in danger of life, you must say that it was a grievous harm; if by that wound Captain Graves could not lose his life, then you might say that it was slight. If you wish to retire, you can retire; if you wish to remain here, remain.

(The Jury again withdrew at 35 minutes past six, and re-entered the Court at a quarter to seven).

The Judge.—It is necessary that you should answer another question which I wanted to put you, but it escaped me; it is this: whether the injury caused was voluntary or not. You must say if he wounded with the intention to wound.

The Registrar.—The question now stands thus—"Is the accused guilty of grievous bodily harm on the person——"

Foreman.—There is no occasion for it, the Jury have made a new verdict: "The Jury declare that the accused Giuseppe Meli is guilty of grievous voluntary harm, caused to the person of Captain Thomas Graves, followed by death in consequence of snpervening accidental causes, and not from the nature alone or natural consequences of the wound. Unanimously. Emanuele Imbroli, Foreman."

The Judge.—This is your declaration.

Foreman.—This.

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The Judge.—Let it be registered.

Crown Advocate.—The punishment under this declaration, I think, is that provided for in No. 3, of Art. 210; that is, to hard labour from five to nine years.

(The Advocate for the defence expresses some doubt.)

The Judge.—See Article 210, No. 3.

(The Advocate for the defence reads the Article.)

The Judge.—From five to nine years.

Advocate for the Defence.—I think that, in applying the punishment on this declarati o the lesser punishment provided for in this paragraph should be passed, having regard to all the circumstances on which, I think, the Jurors based themselves in making their declaration. Therefore there being a choice, the lesser punishment should always be applied in the case of a declaration like this; I consequently think that I am right in asking the application of the minimum, having regard to the state and condition of the prisoner.

The Court.

Having seen the declaration of the jury on the indictment against Giuseppe Meli; having seen Article 31, and No. 3 of Article 210 of the Criminal Laws, invoked by the Crown Advocate; considering that owing to the particular circumstances of the case, and especially the gravity of the crime, and the want of any excuse and extenuating circumstance whatever, concurring in the guilt of the said Meli, there is no reason for the application of the minimum of the punishment, invoked by the defender of the said Meli, has condemned the said Giuseppe Meli, found guilty of wilful and severe bodily harm on the person, on which death ensued, owing to a supervening accidental cause, and not to the nature or natural consequences alone of such harm, to the punishment of Imprisonment, with Hard Labour, for Nine Years.

MALTA.

COPIES or EXTRACTS of CORRESPONDENCE between the Colonial Office and the Governor of *Malta*, on the Subject of the Working of the JURY LAW in general, and especially with reference to the Trial of the Murderer of Captain *Graves*.

(*Mr. Kinnaird*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
21 *March* 1857.

[*Price* 8 *d.*

149.

Under 8 *oz.*

CORRESPONDENCE

ON THE SUBJECT OF

REMOVAL OF INHABITANTS OF PITCAIRN'S ISLAND

TO

NORFOLK ISLAND.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
5 February 1857.

LONDON:
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FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1857.

2160

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CORRESPONDENCE

ON THE SUBJECT OF

REMOVAL OF INHABITANTS OF PITCAIRN'S ISLAND TO NORFOLK ISLAND.

No. 1. No. 1.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Sir John S. Pakington Bart. to Lieut.-Governor Sir William Denison.

(No. 140.)

Sir, Downing Street, December 15, 1852.

With reference to the arrangements which you have proposed for the gradual abolition of the convict settlement at Norfolk Island, I have to acquaint you that this place has been suggested as fit for the reception of the small body of settlers now existing on Pitcairn's Island.

You must be too well acquainted with the history of these interesting people to render it necessary that I should enlarge on the subject here. It is enough to say that they are a community who, in the small and remote island which they occupy, have preserved an innocence of life and a gentleness and benevolence of manners which have gained for them the esteem, the admiration, and the goodwill of all by whom they have been visited. They are rapidly, however, outgrowing the capability of the little island they inhabit to afford them the means of sustenance. From an apprehension of scarcity on a former occasion they were removed to Otaheite, but they found the scene in which they were placed so unsuited to them that they seized the first opportunity of securing the return of their whole party back to Pitcairn's Island. Their present numbers are estimated, I believe, at about 170.

I shall be glad to receive from you an early report how soon Norfolk Island will be finally evacuated, under the arrangements which you have proposed for that purpose; what resources, both in the way of buildings and of available lands, it will then afford to a new body of settlers of the kind I have described; how far these resources may appear to you, from your knowledge and experience, likely to be sufficient for their wants; and what arrangements, if the measure is to take effect, you would suggest as most likely to conduce to its successful execution.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN S. PAKINGTON.

Lieut.-Governor Sir W. Denison,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 2. No. 2.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor Sir William Denison to the Duke of Newcastle.

(No. 129.)

Government House, Van Diemen's Land,
June 8, 1853.

(Received October 25, 1853.)

(Answered, No. 181, December 9, 1853, page 10.)

My Lord Duke,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a Despatch from Sir John Pakington, No. 140, dated 15 December 1852, in which, after mentioning that Norfolk Island had been suggested as fit for the reception of the small body of settlers now existing on Pitcairn's Island, I am directed to report how soon Norfolk Island will be finally evacuated, what resources, in the way of buildings and of available land, it will then afford to a new body of settlers, how far these resources may be sufficient for the wants of such settlers, and what arrangements I should suggest as most likely to conduce to the successful execution of this scheme, should it be decided to carry it into effect.

2. Having communicated with the Comptroller-General, with Mr. Price, the late Commandant at Norfolk Island, and with Captain Hamilton, who resided there some time, and who has now, as Commanding Royal Engineer,

charge of the buildings of the department, I am enabled to forward to your Grace the enclosed documents, being returns of the amount of stock now on the island, of the number and condition of the buildings, and a letter from Mr. Price, expressive of his opinion of the peculiar adaptation of the island for the purpose suggested.

3. With regard to the time at which the transfer to the islanders can be made, and the mode in which it can be managed, I have consulted with the Comptroller-General, who is of opinion that Norfolk Island can be abandoned for convict purposes on the 31st December 1854, but that to carry out the whole of the proposed arrangements in an effective manner a ship of about 500 tons should be chartered in England to convey convicts to Western Australia, and, after landing these convicts, to proceed to Norfolk Island about November 1854, to transfer the last of the convicts and stores, as well as the civil and military officers, and other free persons, to Van Diemen's Land; on the completion of that service, the vessel should proceed to Pitcairn's Island, to carry out the proposed transfer from thence to Norfolk Island.

4. This arrangement appears to me to be the best which can be adopted. Ample means will thus be placed at the disposal of the Government for the removal of all the men and stores on the island. Time will be given to communicate with the Pitcairn islanders, and to prepare them for their intended move; and as some persons must be left in charge of the buildings and crops, between the departure of the convicts and the arrival of the islanders, the vessel should be chartered to proceed from Norfolk Island to Hobart Town after the disembarkation of the islanders.

5. It is most essential that transport should be provided in England as suggested, for it would not be possible to find it in this part of the world, unless at a very high rate, and the vessel would certainly not be so well suited to the purpose as one chartered as above described.

6. The arrangements which I should propose to make on the island would be very simple. A certain amount of land would be kept under cultivation by the convicts, and cropped with maize and sweet potatoes, which would be harvested by the islanders on their arrival, or should this not take place till too late in the year, by the persons left in charge of the buildings and stock.

7. A certain number of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs will be left on the island, together with all the necessary tools, implements, and stores which may be required for the service of the people until they are in a position to purchase what they may require, and provide for themselves. To leave too large an amount at their disposal would only lead to habits of idleness and dependence upon others. Indeed, I should almost feel disposed to recommend that a charge, however trifling it may be, should be made even at first for every article issued from the Government stores; and that, after the settlement is once started, the full value should be charged by the Government for every tool or implement issued to the people.

8. It is evident from Mr. Price's letter that in a very short time the inhabitants will be in a position to carry on an active trade with the neighbouring colonies; the produce of the island, such as arrow-root, maize, pepper, coffee, &c., will meet with a ready sale in New South Wales, and the fertility of the soil is such as to render these returns abundant, provided proper industry be exhibited.

9. Looking, however, to the indolence of the South Sea islander, the effect partly of the climate in which they live, partly of their natural constitution, I should suggest that the grant of land to each family should at first be limited to an amount sufficient to maintain the individuals composing it, and the quantity of stock which it may be thought advisable to allot to them. Facilities and inducements should then be held out to them to acquire more land, for which a fair sum per acre should be charged; but, looking to the confined area of the island, which does not contain more than 10,000 or 12,000 acres, I would submit that the whole should be reserved for the native population, and be disposed of under such regulations as would effectually prevent any jobbing on the part of speculators or capitalists who might be disposed to take advantage of the ignorance of the natives.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. DENISON.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 2. Encl. 1 in No. 2.

NORFOLK ISLAND.

RETURN of LAND under Cultivation during the Half Year ending 31st December 1852.

——	Extent. A.	R.	P.	REMARKS.
Sweet Potatoes -	16	0	0	This crop will be ready for issue by the end of February next. The yield expected to be large.
Maize - -	40	0	0	Not more than half of this crop will yield anything at all; the failure of the rest is owing to there being an insufficiency of labour to keep the land clean.
Garden Ground -	2	0	0	For the purpose of producing vegetables for the military and convict hospitals.

(Signed) W. H. THOMAS,
Officer in charge of Agricultural Department.

The Acting Commandant,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2 in No. 2. Encl. 2 in No. 2.

RETURN of LIVE STOCK remaining on hand at NORFOLK ISLAND up to 31st December 1852.

Stallions - - - - - -	2
Young stallions - - - -	2
Geldings, broken in - - - -	11
„ unbroken - - - -	—
Colts - - - - - -	1
Foals - - - - - -	—
Mares - - - - - -	12
Fillies - - - - - -	2
Foals - - - - -	—
Total horses - - -	30
HORNED CATTLE.	
Bulls - - - - -	5
Young bulls - - - -	2
Feeding oxen - - - -	98
Working oxen - - - -	150
Steers - - - - -	89
Calves - - - - -	86
Cows - - - - -	107
Heifers - - - - -	85
Calves - - - - -	99
Total horned cattle - - -	721
SHEEP.	
Rams - - - - -	30
Young rams - - - -	9
Feeding wethers - - - -	61
Young ditto - - - -	879
Lambs - - - - -	370
Breeding ewes - - - -	1,846
Maiden ewes - - - -	899
Lambs - - - -	446
Total sheep - - -	4,140
SWINE.	
Boars - - - - -	—
Young boars - - - -	3
Feeding barrows - - - -	4
Young ditto - - - -	15
Breeding sows - - - -	—
Maiden ditto - - - -	57
Young ditto - - - -	46
Total swine - - - -	125
Fowls - - - - -	18

Norfolk Island, December 31, 1852. (Signed) W H. THOMAS.

Encl. 3 in No. 2

Enclosure 3 in No. 2.

Royal Engineer Office, Hobart Town,
June 6, 1853.

Sir,

I have the honour, in reference to your communication of the 15th ultimo respecting the buildings at Norfolk Island, as to their capabilities of meeting the requirements of a body of free settlers, to report that the following is the accommodation at present existing on the island, viz.—

One large stone building, consisting of about twelve rooms, besides numerous out-offices, including coach-house, stable, &c.
One stone cottage, consisting of eight rooms, with necessary out-buildings, including stable, &c.
One stone cottage, consisting of seven rooms, with necessary out-buildings.
Three do. do. six do. do. do.
Five do. do. four do. do. do.
One weather-boarded cottage, consisting of six rooms, with necessary out-offices.
One do. do. do. four do. do. do.
Two stone cottages, consisting of three rooms each and detached kitchen.
Sixteen do. do. two rooms and half a kitchen.
Two weather-boarded cottages, do. do.
Four do. do. three rooms each and half a kitchen.
One stone cottage, consisting of three rooms and a kitchen, and stabling for three horses.
One do. two rooms.
Block of buildings forming the new military barracks, affording accommodation for one field officer, six officers, 168 rank and file, and 36 hospital patients, with necessary out-buildings attached.
Block of buildings forming the old military barracks, affording accommodation for four officers, 98 rank and file, and one barrack serjeant, with necessary out-buildings attached.
Block of buildings forming the commissariat stores and sheds, &c.
A stone building, forming convict and engineer stores.
Block of buildings, forming the convict barracks and workshops, churches, &c.
Do. forming convict messroom and sheds, cooking and baking houses, &c.
Carpenters' and blacksmiths' shops.
Wind and water mills (one of each) with huts attached.
Two large boat sheds.
Block of buildings forming the gaol establishment, embracing gaolers' and turnkeys' quarters, cook and bake-houses, &c.
The foregoing comprise the buildings on the settlement, in addition to which there are—
Two huts on the Longridge Road, consisting of two rooms each and a kitchen.
And at Longridge—
One stone cottage, consisting of four rooms, with necessary out-offices.
One weather-boarded do. do. six rooms, do.
One do. do. do. three rooms, do.
One large dormitory and messroom.
One large stone barn and stable.
Small gaol.
Cook and bake house.

There are several other weather-boarded buildings, but in a ruinous condition, such as old dormitories, overseers' quarters, &c. This remark applies equally to the dilapidated buildings at the Old Cascade station.

There is at the landing-place on the north side of the island a small store and guard-room, and also several old wooden huts in the gardens throughout the island used by the officers.

I am of opinion that there is more than ample accommodation, and that of a very superior quality, on the island, for a far greater number of settlers than 150; and the means available for their at once commencing farming and garden operations without any previous labour of clearing land, &c.; at the same time, nothing but labour, and abundance of it, will ever keep Norfolk Island clear from being overrun with vegetation, especially that of the wild cotton plant, a most troublesome customer to keep down.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. G. Hamilton,
Captain, &c., Commanding Royal Engineers.

The Comptroller-General of Convicts.

Encl. 4 in No. 2

Enclosure 4 in No. 2.

In forwarding herewith the information required by his Excellency to reply to Despatch No. 140, I have to report that I consider Norfolk Island admirably adapted for the Pitcairn islanders; the buildings, as shown by the report of the Commanding Royal Engineer, being much more than sufficient for their accommodation, and the soil, climate, and productions very similar, I believe, to those of the island which they now occupy

The cotton tree would be the greatest difficulty they would have to contend against at Norfolk Island. It would also be necessary that they should take steps to keep up the supply of firewood; live stock, agricultural implements, and other articles could be left on the island for their use. Under the existing arrangements now in progress, Norfolk Island can be finally abandoned for convict purposes on the 31st December 1854. But to carry out the whole of the proposed arrangements in an effective manner, I would suggest that a ship of about 500 tons might be chartered in England to convey convicts to Western Australia, and after landing these convicts to proceed to Norfolk Island, about November 1854, to transfer the last of the convicts and stores, as well as the civil and military officers and other free persons to Van Diemen's Land. On the completion of that service proceeding to Pitcairn's Island to carry out the proposed transfer from thence to Norfolk Island, as transport could not be found in this part of the world except at a very high rate, and certainly none so well suited for the purpose as such a vessel as I have mentioned.

June 7, 1853. (Signed) J. S. Hampton.

Enclosure 5 in No. 2. Encl. 5 in No. 2.

Sir, Hobart Town, June 3, 1853.

In accordance with his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor's desire that I should report my "opinion as to the general capability of Norfolk Island of maintaining a body "of free settlers to the number in all of about one hundred and seventy," I have the honour to submit the following observations for his Excellency's consideration.

Presuming that the settlers alluded to are the Pitcairn islanders, I conceive that a spot better calculated for their reception could not be selected. Emigrating from but a few degrees to the north of Norfolk Island, these people would enter on their agricultural operations under highly favourable circumstances; already acclimatized, they would bring with them a knowledge of the seasons, of the proper localities for the due protection of their crops on a small island, swept as their own is at times by heavy winds, and also experience in the culture of intertropical productions.

The soil of Norfolk Island is of excellent quality (similar to that of Pitcairn's Island): in favourable seasons an acre of land of average quality would produce about fifty bushels of maize; from twenty to twenty-five tons of sweet potatoes are obtained from a similar space; about a ton of arrow root is the average crop from the acre. Wheat is of uncertain growth, the barley and oats of the island are also of inferior quality, but rye of good quality is obtained to the amount of about thirty bushels to the acre. All English vegetables grow abundantly during the winter and spring months. The lemon and guava are found in abundance in all the gullies in the island. The grape, the fig, the orange, the shaddock, pine-apple, mulberry, olive, loquat, custard-apple, and other fruits grow in the gardens. Coffee produces abundantly, and the whole island is capable of being placed under cultivation. About six hundred acres have been under the plough: but I imagine, from my knowledge of the rapid growth of the weeds in that climate, that the cleared land has already become a wilderness, but of course it can be easily recovered, having once been under cultivation. Fish is abundant off the coast. The natural grasses are capable of sustaining about six thousand sheep, and I should say a thousand head of horned cattle, together with a sufficiency of horses for agricultural purposes. The main fences are new, and I believe will last for the next nine years; the roads are in fair order; the jetty is perfect, so far as it has been carried out, and stone ways for the boats were about being laid down when I left the island. The buildings are in good repair; a new barn and stable have been recently erected. The siloes for the storage of grain have been put in perfect order, and several new and substantial quarters erected for civilians. Limestone, sawing and splitting timber, as likewise firewood, is in abundance, and there exists no doubt in my mind that Norfolk Island is fully capable of maintaining from three to four thousand *free* people.

In support of my opinion that this island is eminently adapted as a residence for the Pitcairn islanders, I beg leave to adduce the opinion of a very intelligent man, Captain Grant, master of an American whaler. This gentleman was well acquainted with the people referred to, indeed he had known them many years, his wife having been left for seven months an invalid amongst them, he during that time was constantly amongst them. Brought up as an agriculturist in his younger days, he saw that at no distant period these people must seek another home, from the insufficiency of the island in the production of food, and in conversing with me on the subject he expressed his opinion that no more eligible spot existed than Norfolk Island for their reception. Similar in soil, in climate and in coast, he looked on our settlement as a most desirable location for his friends, and frequently expressed a hope that should it ever be abandoned as a penal settlement it might be transferred to them.

It may not be out of place, whilst on this subject, to remark, that I imagine that Norfolk Island, were it a free port, would be the refreshing station of most of the whalers of the southern seas, as it lies in a direct line from the Equator to their fishing grounds, and many of these vessels have refreshed at Pitcairn's Island, and consequently are acquainted with the natives; added to this, recently many vessels have called at the island on their voyage from California to Victoria, and the flour vessels to the same port

from the coast of South America have touched at the island for the purpose of procuring refreshments, so that the island would not long be located by a free population ere a trade would be established with the islanders.

In conclusion I have to apologize to his Excellency for the meagreness of my report; but not being in possession of returns of produce, land that has been under cultivation, and amount of live stock that has been on the island, I am unable to support my opinion by statistics; but of this his Excellency may rest assured, that an island capable of being made in its whole extent a perfect garden, such as Norfolk island is, is sufficient to maintain a population immensely in excess of the number contemplated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN PRICE,
Civil Commandant.

The Comptroller General,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Duke of NEWCASTLE to Lieut.-Governor Sir WILLIAM DENISON.

(No. 181.)

SIR, Downing Street, December 9, 1853.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 129 of the 8th of June 1853,* reporting on the capabilities of Norfolk Island for the future residence and settlement of the people of Pitcairn's Island. Nearly at the same time I have received through the foreign department a letter from Her Majesty's Consul at Raiatea in the Society Islands, communicating an application which had been received from the Pitcairn's islanders for the means of removing to Norfolk Island.

* Page 5.

From the very useful reports which you have furnished on the subject, it cannot be doubted that this island is particularly well suited for the future residence of the Pitcairn's islanders, and I shall cause proper measures to be taken, when the time shall have more nearly approached, for supplying a vessel to call for these people at Pitcairn's Island about the month of November 1854.

It will be proper that Norfolk Island should not be opened to occupation by any other class of settlers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NEWCASTLE.

Lieut.-Governor Sir W. Denison,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 4.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE GREY, Bart., to Lieut.-Governor Sir HENRY YOUNG.

(No. 13.)

SIR, Downing Street, December 4, 1854.

WITH reference to the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch to your predecessor, No. 181, of the 9th December 1853, apprizing him that a vessel would be provided towards the end of the present year for the removal of the Pitcairn islanders to Norfolk Island, I transmit to you for your information the copy of a letter from the Foreign Office, stating that this information had been communicated to the Pitcairn islanders by Her Majesty's Consul at the Society Islands.

Nov. 15, 1854.

But upon the receipt of Sir William Denison's Despatch, No. 215, of the 11th October 1853, transmitting an appeal against the removal of the convicts who still remained at Norfolk Island, the intention of sending a ship for the Pitcairn islanders was postponed, and Her Majesty's Consul at the Society Islands was so informed. No further steps will be taken for the transfer of the Pitcairn islanders until I shall receive a report from you that, in pursuance of the directions conveyed to Sir William Denison by the Duke of Newcastle in his Grace's Despatch, No. 48,* of the 30th March last, all the convicts remaining in Norfolk Island have been finally removed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

Lieut.-Governor Sir H Young,
&c. &c. &c.

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* Page 93, of Papers on Convict Discipline, presented to Parliament by Her Majesty's Command, May 1854.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Encl. in No. 4.

SIR, Foreign Office, November 15, 1854.

WITH reference to your letter of the 10th of December last, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before Secretary Sir George Grey, the accompanying copy of a Despatch from Mr. Toup Nicolas, Her Majesty's Consul in the Society Islands, enclosing a copy of a letter addressed by him to the Pitcairn islanders, informing them that a vessel would call off that island at the close of the present year for the purpose of removing them to Norfolk Island.

No. 9.
July 10, 1854.

I am at the same time to request you will observe to Sir George Grey that at the time Mr. Nicolas addressed his letter to the Pitcairn islanders it would appear that he had not received a despatch addressed to him from this department on the 12th of May last, acquainting him, in accordance with the contents of the Colonial Office letter of the 6th of last April, that Norfolk Island would not be available for the Pitcairn islanders as soon as he had at first been led to expect.

I have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) WODEHOUSE.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 4.

MY LORD, Raiatea, July 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, No. 4, dated December 16, 1853, instructing me to communicate to the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island, that Her Majesty's Government had consented to their removal to Norfolk Island.

I have the honour herewith to enclose a copy of the letter addressed by me to the Pitcairn islanders.

This letter I have forwarded in duplicate, in order that the first opportunity for Pitcairn's Island may be taken either from Tahiti or Valparaiso.

I have, &c.

The Earl of Clarendon, &c. &c. &c. (Signed) B. TOUP NICOLAS.

To the Pitcairn Islanders.

MY DEAR FRIENDS, Raiatea, July 5, 1854.

IN accordance with your wishes conveyed to me through your late lamented chief magistrate Matthew McCoy, I addressed the Earl of Malmesbury on the subject of your removal, either wholly or in part, to Norfolk Island, provided the Government would consent to cede it to you.

I have received a despatch from the Earl of Clarendon, the present Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who instructs me to make known to you that his Lordship has been informed by the Duke of Newcastle, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that Norfolk Island will be available for the settlement of the Pitcairn islanders, or as many as will remove thither, by the end of the year 1854. Her Majesty's Government will also take measures to provide a vessel which shall call off Pitcairn's Island towards the close of that year for the purpose of removing the people to Norfolk Island.

While communicating this intelligence to you, I am at the same time to acquaint you that you will be pleased to understand that Norfolk Island cannot be "ceded" to the Pitcairn Islanders, but that grants will be made of allotments of land to the different families, and I am desired further to make known to you that it is not at present intended to allow any other class of settlers to reside or occupy land on the island.

To those who avail themselves of the opportunity of settling in Norfolk Island I would offer my warmest wishes for their welfare in their new home, accompanied by a hope and a belief that they will take with them and retain that sterling principle and noble simplicity which have caused the Pitcairn islanders to be so cared for by England.

To those who remain, should there be any who do so, I would offer wishes as heartfelt as to those of their brethren who are about to depart, with a hope that the community at Pitcairn's Island will long continue to lead that life so primitively good, so deservedly happy, which it was my good fortune to witness during my week's pleasant sojourn amongst them.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) B. TOUP NICOLAS.

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor Sir WILLIAM DENISON to the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE GREY, Bart.

(No. 83.) Van Diemen's Land, Government House, December 25, 1854.

(Received March 17, 1855.)

SIR, (Answered "Separate," April 15, 1855, page 13.)

I WISH to bring under your notice the correspondence which has taken place on the subject of the transfer of Norfolk Island to the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island, and to make one or two suggestions which may perhaps facilitate the arrangements to be made for the reception and good government of the new settlers.

2. The circumstance that the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island were desirous to remove from that place to Norfolk Island was brought under my notice in a Despatch* from Sir John Pakington, No. 140, dated 15th December 1852, by which I was directed to report as to the capabilities of the island, and the mode in which the transfer should be arranged.

* Page 5.

† Page 5.

3. In my Despatch,† No. 129, dated 8th June 1853, I went into a full statement of the arrangements which I considered it would be desirable to make, in order to secure the evacuation of the island by the convicts on the 31st December 1854, and the transfer of the Pitcairn islanders to their new place of residence.

‡ Page 10.

4. The Duke of Newcastle, in a Despatch,‡ No. 181, dated 9th December 1853, acknowledged the receipt of my Despatch, No. 129, and, referring to the arrangements proposed by me, said, "I shall cause proper measures to be "taken, when the time shall have more nearly approached, for supplying a "vessel to call for these people at Pitcairn's Island about the month of "November 1854."

5. I shall probably have to address you on the subject of the arrangements to be made for the removal of the men and stores from Norfolk Island, as I have not heard that a vessel has been chartered as suggested by me; but my object at present in addressing you is, to submit that Norfolk Island, as it comes within the geographical boundaries of the Colony of New South Wales, should, when it ceases to be a convict establishment, be placed again under my jurisdiction, as I shall take an interest in the establishment of the Pitcairn islanders, and shall have better opportunities of watching over them than can fall to the lot of the Governor of Van Diemen's Land.

6. I would also suggest that I should have power to appoint a magistrate, and that provision should be made for the payment of his salary, and for that of a police, by the collection of a trifling duty upon imports, or by some mode hereafter to be determined, in order that there may be means at hand to check and control the irregularities committed by the whalers, whose conduct is often productive of the worst effects upon the inhabitants of the South Sea Islands.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart. (Signed) W. DENISON.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor Sir WILLIAM DENISON to the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE GREY, Bart.

(No. 85.) Van Diemen's Land, Government House, December 26, 1854.

(Received March 17, 1855.)

SIR, (Answered "Separate," April 15, 1855, page 13.)

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a Memorandum of the Comptroller General, relative to the steps to be taken for the removal of the convicts establishment, the military, and the surplus stores from Norfolk Island.

I had expected (in consequence of the communication made to me by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, in his Despatch,* No. 181, dated 9th December 1853,) that a vessel would have been chartered in England for the purpose, not only of conveying the Pitcairn islanders to Norfolk Island, but of removing the

* Page 10.

stores and the men who must necessarily be left in charge of the stores and buildings until they are transferred to the new comers.

As, however, I have not received any information of the sailing of such a vessel, and as it is in every way desirable that the establishment at Norfolk Island should be broken up as speedily as possible, I have approved of the suggestion of the Comptroller-General that a vessel of about 400 tons should be chartered for the conveyance of men and stores from Norfolk Island to Van Diemen's Land, at a cost of 900*l.* This arrangement is far more economical than the employment of the "Lady Franklin" would be, for one trip of this vessel will be sufficient to clear off stores, &c. which would be a sufficient cargo for two or even three trips of the "Lady Franklin."

Some convicts (50) with a subaltern's guard of 20 men, will be left on the island till it is finally handed over to the Pitcairn islanders.

A return of the stores and stock transferred to the islanders, together with a detailed report of the state of the buildings, &c. on the island, will be furnished when the transfer is completed.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart. &c. &c. &c. (Signed) W. DENISON.

Enclosure in No. 6. Encl. in No. 6.

MEMORANDUM.

WHEN the "Franklin" sailed from Norfolk Island in October last 119 convicts remained under punishment on the island, and as she has accommodation on board for 68, two voyages of that vessel will suffice to bring away all these convicts, but not the large number of stipendiaries and stores, and as nothing has been heard of the vessel expected from England to perform this service, I am of opinion that the most advantageous arrangement would be now to hire a vessel to proceed to the island.

A superintendent surgeon and a few inferior officers must be retained on the island until the whole of the stores and stock proposed to be removed are embarked, but 19 adult male stipendiaries of all classes can be dispensed with when the "Franklin" is ready to leave the island on the voyage now about to commence, and with them eight adult females and twelve children have to be provided with conveyance.

Transport is also required for upwards of 400 tons of stores, several horses, &c., as well as the military establishment, which should, I think, be reduced to 20 soldiers, to guard the 50 convicts remaining on the island. Under all these circumstances I recommend that the barque called the "Faith," which has been offered by the owner to the Government, or some other suitable vessel, should be hired to proceed to the island in about three weeks from this date.

(Signed) J. S. HAMPTON,

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor. 20th December 1854.

No. 7. No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE GREY, Bart., to Governor General Sir WILLIAM DENISON.

"Separate."

SIR, Downing Street, April 15, 1855.

I HAVE had under my consideration your Despatches, Nos. 83* and 85,* of the 23rd and 26th December last, from Van Diemen's Land, reporting the transfer to that colony of the majority of the convicts from Norfolk Island, and offering some suggestions on the management of the island after the expected settlers from Pitcairn's Island shall arrive. * Page 12.

I approve of the steps which you took for removing from Norfolk Island all convicts, except a small party, which you have kept until the expected arrival of the Pitcairn's settlers.

Upon the question of hereafter annexing the island to the government of New South Wales instead of that of Van Diemen's Land, as well as upon the necessity of appointing any special officers for the maintenance of peace and good order, I shall address you at a future opportunity. In the meanwhile the

first step to be taken is to provide for the transfer of the Pitcairn's islanders, and I think this can best be done from Sydney and under your directions. It was at first intended, as you were informed by the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch* of 9th December 1853, to send a ship from England, to call off Pitcairn's Island about the end of 1854, for the conveyance of the settlers; but when it appeared that there was some demur as to the removal of the convicts from Norfolk Island, this measure was countermanded, and the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island were duly apprized of the change, as it was not thought fit to incur the least risk that these people should be mixed up with a convict settlement. That obstacle no longer exists. But after the lapse of so long a time, and especially as there is some doubt whether the whole of the Pitcairn's settlers would be willing to emigrate, I do not consider it prudent now to send a ship direct from England for their removal. I have to instruct you, therefore, to request the senior naval officer to take the first convenient opportunity of causing a vessel of war to visit Pitcairn's Island, and to ascertain how many of the inhabitants would be ready and willing to proceed to Norfolk Island if a ship were provided for the purpose. Should the answer be favourable, I should wish you to engage and equip at Sydney a suitable vessel for the removal of the Pitcairn's islanders, with a stipulation that, after they are landed, she shall convey the remaining party of convicts at Norfolk Island and their guard to Van Diemen's Land. Special instructions should be given to the master of such vessel to delay the landing of the Pitcairn Islanders at Norfolk Island until he shall have made such arrangements with the officer commanding the guard at that place as will secure that no intercourse whatever shall be permitted between the islanders and the convicts, and that the latter shall be embarked immediately after the whole of the islanders and their goods shall have been landed on the island, and the master should be required to obtain a certificate from the officer commanding the guard that those arrangements had been carried into successful execution.

*Page 10.

The Governor of Van Diemen's Land will take the necessary steps to convey corresponding instructions to the officer commanding at Norfolk Island. A separate account should be kept of the expense of moving the Pitcairn's Islanders, which will have to be hereafter duly provided for. You will of course obtain from Van Diemen's Land any information which you may feel to be necessary in order to frame correctly the particulars of this last-mentioned stipulation. The course thus laid down for your guidance will involve some delay, but it is preferable to incurring the risk of sending a vessel to Pitcairn's Island with the chance of not even finding the people willing to take advantage of the opportunity offered to them for their removal.

A copy of the present Despatch will be transmitted to the Governor of Van Diemen's Land for his information, and he has been instructed (pending the question as to the future local administration of the island) to conform himself to any communications which he may receive from yourself touching this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

Governor Sir W. Denison,
&c. &c. &c.

No 8.

No. 8.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart., to Governor Sir Henry Young.

"Separate."

Sir, Downing Street, April 15, 1855.

Separate, April 15, 1855. Page 13.

I enclose for your information and guidance the copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Sir W. Denison, at Sydney, containing instructions on the steps to be taken for the transfer of the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island, and for the removal of the remaining convicts and their guard to Van Diemen's Land. I have to call your especial attention to the necessity for using every precaution to prevent intercourse between the Pitcairn islanders and the convicts, and to the instructions which you should communicate to the officer commanding the convict guard at Norfolk Island.

As Norfolk Island is still under your government, and the question of its future local administration is left open, I wish you, for the present, and until further instructions, to conform yourself to any communications which you may receive from Sir W. Denison touching this matter.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. Young, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 9.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor General Sir WILLIAM DENISON to the Right Hon. Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

(No. 135.)

Government House, Sydney,
September 3, 1855.
(Received December 29, 1855.)
(Answered No. 10, January 21, 1856, page 25.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a Despatch* marked Separate, and dated 15th April 1855, containing instructions as to the course to be adopted with relation to the proposed transference of the inhabitants of Pitcairn Island to Norfolk Island.

*Page 13.

2. On the receipt of this Despatch I immediately put myself in communication with Captain Fremantle, the senior naval officer on the station, and he at once decided to proceed to Pitcairn Island himself in the "Juno," and he accordingly sailed early in August, and will return to Sydney by the beginning of the year with all the information that may be required to enable me to carry out the remainder of the instructions contained in the Despatch.

3. I may be allowed to point out to your Lordship that some provision will require to be made for the supply of the new comers with food until they reap their first crop; for I do not suppose that the convicts left on the island will have been able to keep enough land in cultivation to meet the increased demand. I enclose copy of a letter which I have written to Sir Henry Young on this subject; and in the absence of any instructions from your Lordship, shall take upon myself to provide whatever may be considered absolutely essential for the new colonists.

Sept. 1, 1855.

4. I would also take the liberty of suggesting to your Lordship the advisability of establishing some authority upon the island, who will, under some general instructions emanating either from Her Majesty's Government direct, or from the Governor of the Colony to which Norfolk Island may be attached, regulate the allotment of land to the families of the new colonists, and make such arrangements with relation to the purchase of additional portions of land, either by the colonists or by their children, as may tend to encourage industry amongst them and induce them to struggle against the enervating influence of the climate.

5. It would in my opinion be advisable, at all events for the present, to prohibit all grants or sales of land to others than the race now about to inhabit this small island, and to hold out as little encouragement as possible to the domestication of other races, be they white or coloured, among them, until the effect of the removal of and the altered circumstances in which they are about to be placed can be clearly seen.

6. I have thought it my duty to bring these matters thus briefly under your Lordship's notice, as bearing upon the success of the experiment which is about to be made. No effort on my part will be wanting which may in any way tend to promote their success.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. DENISON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

SIR, Government House, Sydney, Sept. 1, 1855.

I HAVE received a Despatch from the Secretary of State, marked Separate, and dated 15th April 1855, on the subject of the removal of the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island to Norfolk Island, in accordance with an arrangement proposed some years since, and commented upon by me in Despatches, copies of which are in your possession.

The Secretary of State has forwarded to you a copy of the Despatch above mentioned, and it is therefore unnecessary for me to allude to it further than to say that Captain Fremantle has proceeded to Pitcairn's Island in the "Juno" in order to ascertain the numbers of the inhabitants who will be willing to change their home, and he will be at Sydney again probably about Christmas; I shall then proceed to take the steps pointed out in the Despatch, by chartering a vessel to convey the Pitcairn Islanders to their destination, which vessel will carry back to Hobart Town the convicts and others now left upon Norfolk Island, together with such stores, &c. as it may be desirable or necessary to remove.

Would you have the goodness to allow me to be furnished by the commissariat or the convict department with a list of the stores, tools, stock, &c. now on the island, as also with any information relating to the quantity of land in crop, of provisions in store, &c., which it may be in their power to furnish;—for it is evident that as the Pitcairn islanders will arrive after harvest, means must be provided for their sustenance until it will be in their power to sow and gather a new crop. I shall also be obliged for any data which may enable me to form an opinion as to the length of time which must elapse before the crops can reach maturity; I mean the principal crops, such as maize, sweet potatoes, &c. On receiving any report from Captain Fremantle, I will immediately communicate with you as to the steps which I propose to take, in order that we may act in the fullest concert in the matter.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir H. Young, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) W. DENISON.

No. 10.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir WILLIAM DENISON to the Right Hon. Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

(No. 173.) Government House, Sydney, October 27, 1855

(Received March 5, 1856.)

MY LORD, (Answered No. 47, April 5, 1856, page 33.)

* Page 15.

IN my Despatch, No. 135,* dated 3rd September 1855, I forwarded a copy of a letter addressed by me to the Governor of Tasmania, in which I requested information as to the amount of provision left in store at Norfolk Island, the quantity of land under cultivation, the number of stock of different kinds, &c.

2. I now forward a copy of the returns furnished in reply to my letter, together with the report as to the general capabilities of the island, the nature of the crops, the time of sowing, &c. This will enable me to form some opinion of the quantity of provisions, tools, &c. which it will be necessary to send from Sydney for the use of the new colony. I cannot, of course, give your Lordship any idea of the actual amount of stores which will have to be supplied, until I am furnished by Captain Fremantle with a return of the number of persons who may be expected to leave Pitcairn Island for their new home; but it is evident that flour or meal and groceries, &c. will have to be supplied in quanties sufficient for the consumption of at least twelve months.

3. Your Lordship will see that the deputy commissary general is of opinion that it would be very desirable that a person well acquainted with Norfolk Island should accompany the ship which will be sent from Sydney to Pitcairn Island; and as I quite concur in the view taken by Mr. Bishop, I shall make arrangements, if possible, to send a properly qualified person, whose experience will probably be most serviceable to the emigrants. I trust that these arrangements will meet your Lordship's approval; and that I may be authorized to draw upon the military chest for the cost of the provisions, &c. which it will be necessary to purchase.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) W. DENISON.

Enclosure 1 in No. 10.

MEMORANDUM called for by Sir William Denison's Despatch of 1st September 1855.

Stores, &c. to be conveyed to Hobart Town.

INSTRUCTIONS were left with Mr. Stewart, the commissariat storekeeper in charge at Norfolk Island, to make a careful selection of the most valuable of the stores remaining there for shipment to Hobart Town, and also to ship the mare "Diamond" and her filly foal, if possible.

Lists Nos. 2 to 5 herewith show the description and quality of the stores, furniture, agricultural implements, &c., left at Norfolk Island on the 4th May last. It is surmised that a very large portion of the articles named in these lists would not be worth the transport to Hobart Town, though valuable to the Pitcairners.

List No. 5 gives a description of the whole of the *buildings* on Norfolk Island, with their respective accommodation.

Stock.

A portion of the live stock has been disposed of. The numbers contemplated to be left at Norfolk Island for the Pitcairn Islanders are about

1,300 sheep,
250 horned cattle (milch cows, heifers, steers, &c.)
8 horses (including one young entire).

The swine are running wild in the bush, and their numbers may be estimated at from 40 to 50.

At Philip Island (five miles from Norfolk Island) there is a flock of wild goats: also swarms of rabbits.

Pigeons and parrots abound at Norfolk Island. Fish is also very plentiful round the coast, a ton weight having occasionally been caught in a few hours. They consist of

Trumpeters	from 6 to 20 lbs.	each
King fish	„ 6 to 40	„
Trevally, Growper, Rock cod, Snapper	„ 1 to 6	

Land in Crop.

At the last sowing season (1854) the only grain sown was oats and rye for forage, and as vegetables, vines for sweet potatoes. The wild pigs destroyed nearly the whole of the former, and the cattle all the latter, the fencing having gone generally to decay from the want of convict labour.

When the "Southern Cross" left Norfolk Island in May last, there was not a rod of land under cultivation by the Government, and only about two acres of the officers' gardens were in crop.

There is no grain seed on the island available for sowing except a small quantity of wheat, which has not been found to answer, the crop being generally a very poor one, and seriously subject to smut and blight.

Provisions in Store.

A statement herewith, showing what the remains were on the 7th May last, and the estimated number of days each article is calculated to last from that date, presuming that the issues are restricted to the wants of the 17 individuals left on the island.

It will be observed on reference to this statement, and to the probable time which will elapse before the Pitcairners can reach Norfolk Island, that a very limited amount of supply would be available for them.

Data to form an Opinion.

Maize should be sown from July to October. It has been planted as late as the middle of December, but generally failed. Maize is harvested from February to the end of May, and the average produce is 20 bushels per acre.

Sweet Potatoes.—Vines for these should be planted according to the season, from the beginning of September to the end of November. Those first planted are, after fair weather, fit for digging about Christmas, and all the crop grows and continues good in the ground and fit for human food until the middle of July, after which they are given to the swine.

Most European vegetables will grow luxuriantly at Norfolk Island, except the potato, which is generally small and watery.

It is evident from the foregoing, that after making due allowance for fencing, ploughing, and sowing, no crop of maize could be looked for at Norfolk Island before March 1857, or the sweet potato before December 1856, rendering it indispensable that an extensive supply of bread stuffs, groceries, &c., should be provided for the Pitcairn Islanders to start upon.

The whole of the fencing at Norfolk Island is reported to be in a very dilapidated state; but sufficient good material might be collected from them to construct some miles of serviceable fencing, labour only being required.

I am of opinion that it would be a very desirable, if not an indispensable arrangement, for a person well acquainted with Norfolk Island (one of those last withdrawn, if possible) to be selected to accompany the ship proceeding to Pitcairn Island, as his advice would be very valuable in directing the Pitcairners as to what articles it would be desirable for them to move to Norfolk Island, having in view that the large extent of building accommodation there is of a superior class, in excellent order, and furnished with fixtures and fittings of every requisite description, besides a large quantity of furniture, consisting of tables, chairs, forms, presses, &c. &c., so that few bulky articles need be moved by them.

It should be borne in mind that the crew of the ship, and the Pitcairn islanders themselves, will have to assist in unloading the vessel at Norfolk Island; also in boats, and shore work; the cargo having to be discharged and taken in, in the open sea, generally about four miles from the shore of Norfolk Island.

(Signed) WILLIAM BISHOP,
Commissary General.

Commissariat, Van Diemen's Land, Hobart Town,
September 18, 1855.

Encl. 2 in No. 10.

Enclosure 2 in No. 10.

STATEMENT of the Quantity of Provisions, &c. in the Commissariat Magazines at Norfolk Island on the 7th May, 1855; showing the estimated number of days each Article is calculated to last from that date. The Estimate being based upon the supposition that the issues have been and will be restricted to the wants of the Seventeen Persons authorized to remain on the Island.

Articles.	Quantities in Store on the 7th May 1855.	Estimated daily Issue.	Estimated Number of Days each Article is calculated to last from 7th May 1855.
Wheat - - - - 15,008 lbs.	Equal to Flour lbs.		
Flour - - 1,402 „	13,409	27 pounds.	497 days.
Hops - - - - „	50¾	½ ounce.	1,624 „
Tea - - - - „	241½	¾ pound.	322 „
Sugar - - - - „	2,081¾	5 pounds.	416 „
Salt - - - - „	1,342	2 pounds.	671 „
Soap - - - - „	675¾	2 pounds.	338 „
Tobacco - - - - „	442	1½ pounds.	295 „
Rice - - - - „	725¼	1 pound.	725 „
Oatmeal - - - Pints	736	1 pint.	736 „
Peas - - - - „	312½	½ pint.	625 „
Vinegar - - - „	70	¼ pint.	280 „
Pipes - - Number	500	1 number.	500 „
Port Wine - - Bottled	81	⅓ bottle.	243 „
Candles - - - lbs.	101¼	Sufficient light for three or four years.	
Black Oil - - - Pints	2,767½		
Cotton Wick - - - lbs.	7 3/16		

Commissariat, Van Diemen's Land,
Hobart Town, September 15, 1855.

WILLIAM BISHOP,
Commissary General.

Enclosure 3 in No: 10. Encl. 3 in No. 10.

LIST of Barrack Stores remaining at Norfolk Island, not having been considered of sufficient Value to be worth Removal.

Articles.	Number.
Chairs, officers'	50
Lanterns, passage	13
Tables, room	25
,, mess pieces	4
Sideboards	1
Washhand stands	6
Forms, soldiers'	73
Lids, iron	4
,, wooden	10
Water pails	10
Pots, iron	8
Stools, serjeants'	9
Tables, old pattern	41
Tubs, urine	3
Baths, slipper	1
Barrows, wheel	2
Boxes, sentry	4
Casks, water	2
Well ropes	2
Well buckets	2
Dripstone, frames	2
Boilers, iron	11

REMARK.—The Commissariat storekeeper in charge of the island will make a selection from among these articles for removal to Hobart Town.

Commissariat, Van Diemen's Land, Hobart Town,
September 15, 1855. (Signed) WILLIAM BISHOP,
Commissary General.

Enclosure 4 in No. 10. Encl. 4 in No. 10.

LIST of Commissariat Magazine Implements remaining at Norfolk Island for use in the Stores, in charge of Assistant Storekeeper Stewart.

Description of Articles.	Number, &c.	
Adze, cooper's with handle	1	No.
Beams, scale	3	,,
Bills, mill	11	,,
Block, single	1	,,
Brushes, sweeping	1	,,
Boiler, 25 gallons	1	,,
Cleavers, butchers'	11	,,
Cocks, brass	2	,,
Hammers, coopers'	1	,,
Iron beck	1	,,
Jointers, coopers', with irons	1	,,
Knives, drawing	1	,,
,, coopers' hollowing	1	,,
Butchers' knives	2	,,
Measures, bushel	1	,,
,, half	1	,,
,, spirit	4	,,
Mills, steel	1	,,
Moulds, candle	72	,,
Needles, sail	2	,,
Padlocks	3	,,
Palms, sailmakers'	1	,,
Planes, smoothing	1	,,
Rope, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in.	15	fathoms.
Saws, butchers'	2	No.
Scales	1	pair.
Scoops, tin	1	No.
,, iron	1	,,
Shaves, spoke, coopers'	1	,,
Skids	2	,,
Stock	1	,,

Description of Articles.	Number, &c.
Stones, grinding	1 No.
Waggon, sack	1 „
Weights, 56 lbs.	23 „
„ 28 lbs.	3 „
„ small	9 „
Winnowing machine	1 „
Office Furniture.	
Boxes, account	— „
Desks	3 „
Stone	1 „
Inkstands and glasses	4 „
Press	1 „
Rulers	3 „
Stamp, wafer	2 „
Stools	4 „
Weights, lead	4 „
Tables	3 „
Transport.	
Cart	1 „
Harness	1 set.

REMARK.—Suggested that the whole of these articles be left on the island for the use of the Pitcairn islanders.

Commissariat, Van Diemen's Land, Hobart Town,
September 15, 1855. (Signed) WILLIAM BISHOP,
Commissary General,

Encl. 5 in 10.

Enclosure 5 in No. 10.

LIST of Furniture, Stores, and Sundries, which are estimated as remaining at Norfolk Island, and which, with but few exceptions, are not of sufficient value to be worth removal.

Articles.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	Number, &c.
Anchors, boat	0	2	0	1
„ large	2	3	24	1
Axes, felling				66
„ fire				1
„ pole, butchers'				1
„ broad				2
Anvils, smiths'				2
Awls, brace				15
Adzes, carpenters'				4
Bars, crow				2
Beams, scale, iron				2
Beams and scales				2 sets.
Belly bands, bullock				10
Belts, sword				9
Bits, horse bridle				3
„ snaffle				1
Blankets				173
Blocks, assorted				13
Boat breeching and bridle				1
„ carriages				4
„ hooks				2
„ launches with sails				2
„ whale do.				1
Boilers, iron, assorted				27
Bottles, tin, oil				8
Bows for yokes				37
Boxes, torch				2
Breeching, bullock and horse				11
Bridles, riding				3
Buckets, water				50
„ leather				34
Bunting, blue				40 yds.
„ yellow				40 yds.
Buoys, life, safety, copper				4

Articles.	Number, &c.
Cans, milk	5
Brushes, paint	4
„ small	2
„ whitewash	8
„ tar and long handle	2
„ sweeping	1
„ scrubbing	1
Bellows, smiths'	1
Braces, wood	1
„ iron	1
Barrows, wheel	50
Bitts, assorted	35
Benches, carpenters'	11
Buckets, well	6
Boxes, wood, pit saw	3
Butser, smiths'	1
Bells, house	1
Baskets	3
Barrels	5
Balls, copper	1
Bellows, nailers'	1
Bins, corn	1
Compasses, carpenters'	4
Carts, hand	11
„ bullocks	2
„ horses	7
„ water	3
Carriage, timber	1
Copper, old pipe	7 lbs.
Chisels, assorted	81
Cases, packing	24
Casks do.	11
Cans, paint, &c.	46
Cartridges, ball	360

Articles.	Number, &c.
Chains, claw, bullock	30
„ draught	22
„ iron	71 fathoms.
„ trace, bullock	11
Clamps, wood	12
Cloth, linen, Hessian	98 yds.
Cleavers, butchers'	2
Coats, watch	18
Collars, draught horse	1
Cutters, chaff	1
Chairs	95
Casks, water	26
Desks, writing and school	22
Dishes, tin	117
Drays, bullock	7
Engine, fire, with hose complete	1
Ensigns (flags)	2
Files, assorted	94
Fullers, smiths'	6
Figures, sheet	9
Flags, Marryatt's	16
„ miscellaneous	4
Forks, dinner	3
„ dung	4
„ pitch	11
Funnels, tin	3
Gambrels, butchers'	17
Gimblets	10
Gouges, socket	1
„ former	3
Gunpowder	90 lbs.
Hames, bullock and horse	7
Hammocks	13
Hammers	8
Hardies, nailers	10
Horses	3
Hoes, broad	10
Handcuffs	4 pairs.
Hobbles	3 „
Hooks, fishing	160
Irons, branding	8
„ flat smoothing	4
„ plough	1
„ tiresmiths'	2
„ plane, assorted	15
„ soldering, tinmen's	3
„ grapnel	1
„ searing, farriers'	1
„ old scrap	1 ton.
Jumper, quarry	1
Knives, shingle	2
„ putty	2
„ plumbing	2
„ hacking	4
„ paring, smiths'	1
„ butchers'	7
„ carving	2
„ clasp	12
„ pen	1
„ table	76
Keys, bed	1
Kegs, paint	3
Ladders, assorted	5
Locks, pad, assorted	62
Lathe, turning	1
Lead pipe, old	6
Lamps, street	10
„ passage	6
„ hanging	2
„ hand	11
Lanterns, bull's-eye	1

Articles.	Number, &c.
Lids, boiler and pot	25
Machine, winnowing	1
Marlinspikes	1
Measures, bushel	1
„ half bushel	1
„ glass graduate	1
Moulds, bullet	3
Mandrils, smiths'	26
Mallets, masons'	6
Oars, assorted	12
Oil, linseed	7 gallons.
Paints, assorted	40 lbs.
Pall, funeral	1
Pans, frying	6
Pans, sauce, iron	20
Pestle and mortar	1
Phlemes	1 set.
Picks, road	6
Palms, sailmakers'	2
Pistols, percussion	16
Plates, tin	100
Ploughs	4
Needles, quarry	2
Planes, trying	1
„ plough	1
„ jointer	1
„ jack	3
„ smoothing	7
„ toothing	2
„ circular	1
„ sash, oval	1
„ revate	1
Pumps, wood	2
Planes, iron, quarry	24
„ breast, smith	1
Pincers	1
Pans, water-closet	1
Punchers, steel	7
Pokers	1
Picks, clay and masons'	9
Riddles, iron wire	2
Rakers, iron, assorted	12
Rulers, carpenters' 2-foot	3
Rasp	1
Pots, iron, assorted	25
Rasps, farrier's	2
Rings for keys	3
Rope, 3½-inch	30 fathoms.
„ white, ½ inch	166 „
Resin	40 lbs.
Rulers, office	6
Stools	2
Seats, verandah	2
Tables, common	40
Saddles, bullocks'	3
„ cart	3
„ riding	2
Saws, crosscut	4
„ hand	8
„ tenon	4
„ keyhole	1
„ twining hand	1
„ ditto, pit	1
„ hack	1
Scales	1 set.
„ and weights for medicine	1 „
Screw and nut for wood press	1
Sheaves, 4-inch	3
Sieves, assorted	4
Signal book	1
Snuffers	2 pairs.

Articles.	Number, &c.
Spades	30
Steel, butchers'	2
Stones, oil	3
„ ray	5
„ Turkey	1
„ grind	2
Screw-drivers	1
Swords and scabbards	8
Shaves, spoke	3
Store, preserving	1
Shears, tinman's	1
Screws, plates, and taps	5
Screens, lime	3
Shovels, assorted	15
Salver, plaster	1
Spoons, quarry	3
Sets, saw	1
Telescopes	1
Turpentine	4 gllons.
Twine, sailmakers'	6 lbs.
Watch tackle fall	2

Articles.	Number, &c.
Weights, brass assorted	15
„ iron	30
Tools, nailors'	9
„ bolt	12
Tubs, assorted	20
Tongs, smiths	20
Taps, brass	2
Tools, turning	2
Vice, smiths'	1
Ventilators, copper	15
Wrench, screw	20
Wool press	1
Wardrobes	3
Washhand stands	3
Tables	150
Cases, book	3
Crane iron on jetty	1
Forms, assorted	100
Mangle	1
Presses	4

REMARKS.

This estimate, from which a general idea only can be formed, includes both "serviceable" and "unserviceable" articles, the latter not having been destroyed, it having been considered probable that the Pitcairn islanders might possibly, although in another shape, make them useful.

As a general estimate, more than half of the articles in this list may be considered "unserviceable." In addition to this list, there are many other articles most difficult to call to mind, unless specially brought under the notice of a person recently from the island, who from his position had an opportunity of knowing what was left by each of the several departments, viz., Convict, Engineer, Medical, Barrack, and Commissariat. By far the greater proportion of these articles, although all convict property, were in the charge of the foreman of Works, Royal Engineer Department, and no convict officer possesses any knowledge or information with regard to them.

Commissariat, Van Diemen's Land, Hobart Town, September 15, 1855.

(Signed) WILLIAM BISHOP, Commissary General.

Encl. 6 in No. 10.

Enclosure 6 in No. 10.

LIST of Buildings at Norfolk Island.

Settlement Station.

Government House is a stone building consisting of eight rooms, 1 kitchen, 2 store-rooms, 1 loft, 1 pantry, 1 watercloset, 2 cellars, 21 pair of 15 light sashes, 14 framed doors, 4 ledged doors, 20 locks, 6 mantelpieces, 20 pair of box shutters, 20 pair of Venetian shutters, store fitted up with shelves, verandah front and 2 ends flagged, filled in with trellis work, a flight of stone steps in front; the outbuildings consist of stone work, 9 rooms including office, laundry, bakehouse, washhouse, well in yard, 3-stall stable, coach-house, harness and servants room, privy, boiler, 18 ledged doors, 7 pairs 12-light sashes, 3 6 light, 1 pigeon house, 2 yards all enclosed,

Officers' quarters:—12 cottages, 10 of them stone buildings, 1 weather-boarded on stone foundation, 1 weather-boarded, of from 4 to 8 rooms each, with outbuildings of stone, usually 2 rooms with small store-rooms in addition, left with sashes, Venetian shutters, doors, locks, verandah with trellis work and stone flagged, with flights of stone steps in front, and enclosed by walls 9 feet high, all complete.

Inferior persons' quarters:—33 buildings, 27 stone, 6 weather-boarded on stone foundations, left with sashes, Venetians, doors, locks, &c., complete number of rooms from 2 to 4 each, with kitchens.

Windmill.

Weather-boarded building, driving wheel, pinion wheel, dressing machine and gear, main shaft, 4 fans, 1 ladder, 1 wheel, and stone foundation, pair of mill stones, feeding hopper, wood cart and rollers for mill to traverse on.

Huts at the Windmill.

Stone building, 3 rooms and kitchen, privy, pouch over door, 4 ledged doors, locks, sashes, &c.

Water Mill and Millers' Quarters.

Stone buildings, consisting of millhouse, grinding and dressing rooms, 1 wood axle, 1 water and 1 pit wheel, driving and pinion wheel, pair of millstones, dressing machine with

gear, 2 rooms for the miller and a weather-boarded kitchen, 2 sashes, doors, locks, machine for hoisting grain, mill dam, and race with cistern over the waterwheel.

Royal Engineer Buildings.

Stone stable, 4 stalls paved with pebbles, racks, mangers, 4 louvre windows, pair of half doors.

Engineer office, stone building, 4 rooms, 2 privies, 1 yard, 6 12-light sashes, 4 pairs of sliding frame shutters, pulleys, lines, handweights ditto, stone porch doors, locks, stone mantelpieces, yard, flagged, enclosed with stone wall, 7 feet high, stone coping on the wall.

Convict Store and Guard Room.

Stone building, 2 stores, cellar, all fitted up with shelves, &c. for stores, guard bed, flight of stone steps, sashes, Venetians, doors, &c. complete.

Crank Mill.

Stone building, 2 stores and cellars, stores fitted up with shelves, mill fitted with gear, doors, and sashes.

Reading Room.

Stone building, sashes, mantelpiece, door, lock, shelved, &c.

Police Office.

Stone building, 5 rooms, sashes, doors, shutters, locks, privy, &c.

Boat Sheds.

Stone building, 2 compartments, holds 2 15-ton launches, and 2 or 3 whale boats, 2 pairs of folding ledged doors, 1 corner door.

Boat Run, Pier, &c.

Stone pier running into the sea, with 2 flights of stone steps for landing, stone slip for launching boats, flagstaff, with stone work round the bottom.

Prisoners' Mess Room.

Stone building, boarded floor fitted up with cupboard rails, pegs, &c., large privy, 5 street lamps, towel rollers, verandah round yard, skylights in roof, 2 pairs of double gates.

Bake House.

Stone building, 3 ovens, 1 copper, doors, fireplaces, window openings, &c.

Cook House.

Stone building fitted up with cooking apparatus, 4 coppers, fireplaces, sashes, doors, ventilator on roof, floor flagged.

Carpenter's Shop.

Stone building, shop and 2 rooms, sashes, skylight, doors, open shed for copper, sawpit in the shop, for use in wet weather, and 3 outside the shop.

Protestant Chapel and Vestry.

Stone building fitted up with pews and seats, pulpit and reading desk, communion rail and table, gallery and vestry, 9 pairs of 18-light sashes, 3 skylights, 4 framed doors, locks, ventilators, 1 sash door, Commandments written over the communion table on the wall, stone font.

Superintendent's Office, Court House, and Room over.

Stone building, sashes, 12 window openings filled in with iron bars, court house, boxes, and dock, doors, floor partly boarded, partly stone.

Catholic Chapel and Sacristy.

Stone buildings, pews and seats, altar and altar railings, altar window, pulpit, stone font 8 pairs 12-light sashes, doors, skylight, locks, ventilators, &c., painting on walls, &c.

Mess Room and Cook House over.

Stone building, flight of stone steps, sashes, doors, shutters, 1 copper, 1 fireplace.

Prisoners' Barracks.

Stone building, consisting of centre and two wings, cupola on centre of centre, with letters of the cardinal points of wind over it (N. E. S. W.), 12 wards, 117 pair of 12-light sashes filled with iron bars, lower floor of the building fitted up with separate treatment boxes, 9 flights of stone stairs, 16 framed doors, 16 gaol bolts, 14 street lamps, ventilating pipe in each ward, 1 bell, 1 privy.

Police Hut, Guard Room, and Gateway.

Stone building, 5 rooms, sashes, doors, &c. This concludes an account of one mass of buildings with large open yards, commencing from the Protestant chapel, the whole enclosed by a stone wall 13 feet high.

Hospital.

Stone building, 10 rooms, privy, store, 23 window openings, sashes, doors, &c.; 1 copper, surgery fitted up with shelves, draws, press, &c.

Blacksmith's Shop.

Stone building, 3 smiths' forges, 1 nailer's, 1 wheelwright's shop, painter's shop, sashes, doors, outside gates, &c., enclosed by a 10-foot stone wall.

Salt House.

Stone building, chimney 60 feet high, 2 coppers, 1 pan, 1 pump, windows, doors, ventilator, &c.

Dairy Hut, Pig and Cow Yards.

Stone building, 4 rooms, yard-leant roof for the purpose of milking under, dairy fitted up, &c., well outside.

Police Huts.

Three stone building, doors and sashes complete, wood partitions, making 4 separate sleeping berths.

Gaol.

Stone work, 5 separate buildings, 10 yards, 82 cells, 9 wardmen's rooms, 2 hospital rooms, with gates, door, sashes, iron bars, &c. complete; also 40 cells, 4 rooms, 1 guard room, the whole enclosed with a 10-foot stone wall.

Separate Treatment Cells.—12 cells, 12 yards, dark cells, doors, &c. complete.

Gaoler's Quarters.—Stone building, 8 rooms, privy, sashes, windows, Venetian shutters, &c.

Military Barracks, Old and New.

Two separate ranges of building, each surrounded with walls 14 feet high; the fittings are complete, water laid on at the new barracks. There is ample accommodation for 250 soldiers. Officers' quarters consist of 4 separate buildings within the barrack walls. Two powder magazines, &c. &c.

Commissariat Magazines.

Stone building, 1 cellar, 3 stores or lofts, 34 pairs 12-light sashes, 14 lower boarded windows, all window openings fitted with iron bars; doors, sashes, locks, &c. complete; a large flight of stone steps in front, wall round the yard 14 feet high, with 7 stone sheds inside. Twelve grain siloes excavated in a hill at the back of the magazines.

At Longridge, one mile from the settlement, there are one stone and five weather-boarded houses of from four to seven rooms each; the sashes, doors, and fittings were complete in May last. The prisoner's barracks are three large weather-boarded buildings on stone foundations; one of these buildings is in good order, the others somewhat unsafe. The fittings for slinging the hammocks of 300 or 400 men are still complete. The farm buildings at Longridge consist of—

2 stone barns,
1 12-stall stone stable, complete,
2 store rooms, fitted up,
1 tool house,
1 bakehouse, with oven complete,
1 cook house, with cooking apparatus,
1 weather-boarded fowl house,
1 stone gaol, 12 cells,
1 well.

At the Cascades, three miles from the settlement, there are a number of weather-boarded cottages, but they are in a very dilapidated condition, and much decayed. At the same station there is—

1 stone gaol, 3 cells, and kitchen,
1 stone cook and bake-house,
1 weather-boarded 4-stall stable,
2 wells.

At the landing place at Cascades there is a stone store, 2 rooms, guard room decayed; and at the jetty there is one strong crane secured to the rock, and used for hoisting goods out of boats alongside.

(Signed) William Bishop,
Commissariat, Van Diemen's Land, Hobart Town, Commissary General.
September 15, 1855.

No. 11. No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable HENRY LABOUCHERE to
(No. 10.) Governor Sir WILLIAM DENISON.

SIR, Downing Street, January 21, 1856.

I HAVE received your Despatch,* No. 135, of the 3rd of September last, upon the subject of the intended transfer of the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island to Norfolk Island. * Page 15.

I have come to the conclusion that after the removal of the last of the convicts, it will be desirable that Norfolk Island should be placed under your government as Governor of New South Wales, but not annexed to the latter colony as part of it; and I shall take the first opportunity of forwarding to you an Order of Her Majesty in Council for effecting that object, under the powers created by the Act 18 & 19 Vict. c. 56. s. 5.

I entirely approve of your resolution to furnish the Pitcairn's settlers with provisions for their maintenance, until they shall have had time to grow their own food upon Norfolk Island.

It will also be proper, as you have suggested, to refuse to sell or grant lands in this small island to any other than the race by which it is now about to be inhabited, and to hold out as little encouragement as possible to the domestication there of any other races until the present experiment be fully tried.

I leave it to you to determine whether any public officer must be sent amongst them, and if so, with what powers and in what capacity, for the superintendence of their affairs. At the moment of arrival it certainly may be expected to be indispensable that some one should be present with authority to regulate the distribution of land and of the other property on the island, to guard against or settle disputes, and to give an answer to the numerous questions which cannot but arise in first occupying an entirely new territory. It would seem expedient that lots of not more than moderate dimensions should be assigned at first to the different families, so as to avoid too rapid an appropriation of the limited surface of this small island, and to keep a reserve for the further increase of the race. On this and other questions connected with the first reception and settlement of the new comers, you are in the best position to lay down general rules for the guidance of any officer by whom the operation is to be superintended.

The course to be afterwards pursued in this respect I also leave, as I have above said, to your discretion; but after these earliest arrangements are made it will be satisfactory to me if I shall learn that you have found it safe and expedient to leave this people to the sole management of their own affairs, as has hitherto been the case in Pitcairn's Island; sending, however, occasionally some trustworthy person among them to report upon their condition.

In conclusion, I will merely say that, from the interest which you are certain to take in their welfare, and which, indeed, you have already manifested in the present measure, I feel that it must be unnecessary for me to recommend a population whose past history and conduct have so greatly excited the sympathy of the people of this country to your especial care and protection.

I have sent copy of this Despatch to Sir H. Young, desiring him, if there should be any accidental delay in the arrival of the Order in Council, so that his legal power over the island could not be formally put an end to before the arrival of the Pitcairn people, to act in co-operation with yourself, and to ratify any steps which you may have taken.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 12. No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable HENRY LABOUCHERE to
(No. 11.) Governor Sir H. E. F. YOUNG.

SIR, Downing Street, January 21, 1856. No. 10. Jan. 21, 1856.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information copy of a Despatch which I have addressed to Sir W. Denison on the subject of the removal of the Pitcairn's islanders to Norfolk Island, and have to direct you to guide yourself by the instructions contained in the last paragraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 13.

No. 13.

COPY of a LETTER from THOMAS PHINN, Esq., to HERMAN MERIVALE, Esq.

SIR, Admiralty, January 16, 1856.

WITH reference to your letter of the 24th April last, requesting that a vessel-of-war might be despatched to Pitcairn's Island with the view of ascertaining whether its inhabitants were willing to be removed to Norfolk Island, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Labouchere, copies of a letter and its enclosures from Captain Fremantle of the "Juno," containing information as to the present state of the Islanders, and stating that the majority were willing to be removed to Norfolk Island.

Sept. 23, 1855. No. 41.

I have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq. &c. &c.

(Signed) THOS. PHINN.

Encl. in No. 13,

Enclosure in No. 13.

H.M.S. "Juno" at Sea,
Lat. 24° 51′ S., Long. 133° 28′ W.
Sept. 23, 1855.

(No. 41.)

SIR,

YOUR letter of the 25th April 1855, directing me to send a vessel to Pitcairn's Island to ascertain whether the inhabitants were willing to remove to Norfolk Island, reached me at Sydney when I was on the point of sailing for the Friendly and Navigator's Islands, at the eastern limit of the Australian station; I determined, therefore, to execute their Lordships' command by proceeding at once to Pitcairn in the "Juno;" and having left Sydney on the 6th ultimo, I arrived off that island on the 18th instant (17th according to Pitcairn date).

2. As we approached Bounty Bay a whale boat, containing the magistrate, G. M. Frederic Young, and several others of the natives, came alongside; and having assured us that landing was practicable, I shortly afterwards accompanied them on shore with half the officers of the "Juno."

3. The cordial reception which is accorded to officers of men-of-war by the ingenuous, warm-hearted, and loyal inhabitants of this island need not be repeated to their Lordships. The visit of one of H.M. ships is always a short season of gaiety and innocent excitement; labour is suspended, and all occupy themselves in the service and entertainment of their welcome visitors.

4. After having been heartily greeted by the whole population, we proceeded to the church and school-house, the spot usually chosen for assembling the community upon public matters. Here we turned in, and I explained to them the object of my mission. The Rev. Mr. Nobbs also read out a brief description of Norfolk Island, which had been drawn up and furnished to me by his Excellency the Governor-General of New South Wales.

5. The generous proposal of Her Majesty's Government was not altogether unexpected; rumours of such intention had already reached Pitcairn's; and although the mind of the people generally was made up, they asked for a day or two for inquiry and consultation before finally deciding upon so grave a question, and one so closely affecting their future destiny.

6. The following evening a general meeting of the community was held, and a very large majority at once closed with the offer which had been made to them. Some there were, however, whose attachment to Pitcairn's was apparently too strong to reconcile them to the thoughts of abandoning it. Amongst these was George Adams, the son of old John Adams of the "Bounty." All felt the necessity of some change, for another subdivision of land would reduce the portions to mere insignificant patches scarcely worth cultivating. All felt most grateful for the solicitude and liberality manifested in their behalf by Her Majesty's Government, but the anticipated removal was a melancholy subject for deliberation. The addresses were very abrupt, and in some instances confined to the monosyllable "go." The discussion, however, ended by 153 out of a population of 187 declaring for Norfolk Island. The rest, I will not say determined to live on Pitcairn's, but they would not then acquiesce in the voice of the majority. The lamentable result of the migration to Tahiti in 1831, still fresh in the recollection of the older and more influential part of the community, no doubt prompted misgivings as to the present scheme; although they seemed greatly reanimated by the assuring prospects held out by Sir William Denison's summary, and the accounts of Norfolk Island given by the officers of the "Juno."

7. The final issue of the meeting was conveyed to me in writing, signed by the magistrate and chaplain of the island. I forward the original documents to their Lordships (Enclosure No. 1.); it contains some little interest from having been written by John Adams, a grandson of the old man. Their Lordships will observe that the Islanders express a hope that they may be allowed to live on Norfolk Island in the same seclusion from the rest of the world as they have hitherto done at Pitcairn; and it is impossible for anybody who has once been an eye-witness of the exemplary conduct and the pious, single-minded character of these innocent people, not to urge a compliance with a request so natural and so reasonable. There was

Sept. 19, 1855.

much anxiety to know what succour or protection those that remained might expect hereafter, a point on which I was unable to afford positive information. George Adams in particular pressed hard that, when the ship was sent to convey them away, the position of those who were left, with respect to the British Government, might be explained to them. It was also suggested that the time of their removal should not take place during the winter months, that is, between March and July; and I think I could detect a general wish that the dissolution might be postponed till after rather than precede that season of next year.

8. Subsequently to the meeting I held some conversation with George Adams and the others who were disposed to cling to Pitcairn; and being asked for advice, I endeavoured, without using any undue persuasion, to show that it would be better that no separation should take place. The few that remained would probably find themselves very much isolated, without grown-up men sufficient to work their plantations or to man their boat, and without the means of controlling the crews of whalers, which now frequently call off the island for water, and to barter clothing and other necessaries for fruit and vegetables, or prevent their settling there; much of the interest felt towards them would be transferred to Norfolk Island, whither the main body would be gone; and it is to be feared that without clergyman or teacher the rising generation might not imitate or retain those pious and moral principles which are now universal. There is great reason to expect that when the time comes not one will adhere to the resolution of stopping behind. So affectionate, so attached are they to each other, and the ties of relationship necessarily so interwoven, that the moment of parting will in all probability stifle all other considerations.

9. The condition of the Island and of its inhabitants has in no respect been changed since it was visited by Admiral Moresby in 1852 and 1853. So much has been written and published about them that it would be superfluous to recapitulate the peculiar characteristics which have excited so much interest in England, and gained for them the affectionate sympathy of all their fellow Christians. I can only add my corroboration to their still remaining the same cheerful, docile, and unsophisticated community as they have been so often represented. The enthusiasm displayed by the officers, and especially by the ship's company, for their welfare was quite uncontrollable; they were ready to part with anything, everything, to supply or gratify them, and equally anxious to carry away some object or token in remembrance of the island—even to the stones on the beach; but the girls perceiving this, ran and collected a quantity of tapa sufficient for every man in the ship to receive a suitable memorial.

10. The yam harvest having recently been gathered in, there was no deficiency of the ordinary means of subsistence; but their stock of animal food is very limited, and fish have become of late years exceedingly scarce. A liberal contribution of salt meat was furnished by the men and officers from their messes; and in addition, I authorized the paymaster to supply them with four casks of beef on the part of the Government, likewise a small quantity of soap, of which they were almost destitute. The poor people expressed their gratitude with frank simplicity; they especially prize any favour or attention which has its source from the Crown or Government of England, and they evince the greatest anxiety, and esteem it their highest privilege, to be recognized as subjects of Her most Gracious Majesty.

11. The population consists of 187 persons. The sexes are evenly divided; one half, being above the age of 15, may be considered adult; the rest are children and infants. Two men and six women are all that remain of the old generation; that is, the immediate descendants of the "Bounty" people. I enclose (No. 2.) an entire list of the islanders, with their names, ages, and other particulars, which may not be devoid of interest to those who are familiar with the singular origin and history of this primitive colony.

12. The last man-of-war that touched at Pitcairn was the "Amphitrite," in February last. An American whaler, the "Matthew Ince," Mr. Coon, master, was off the island, in daily communication with the shore. The "Juno" remained on and off the island till the 21st, when I took my departure for Tahiti, to complete water.

I have, &c.

Ralph Osborne, Esq., Admiralty.

(Signed) J. S. Fremantle, Captain.

No. 14. No. 14.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor General Sir William Denison to the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart.

(No. 37.) Government House, Sydney, February 27, 1856.

Sir, (Received June 10, 1856.)

In my Despatch,* No. 135, dated 3rd September 1855, addressed to Lord John Russell, I mentioned that I had been in communication with Capt. Fremantle, the senior naval officer on this station, on the subject of the removal of the Pitcairn islanders to Norfolk Island, and that that officer had

* Page 15.

proceeded himself, in the "Juno," to Pitcairn's Island, for the purpose of procuring such information as would enable me to carry into effect the instructions contained in your Despatch,* marked "Separate," and dated 15th April 1855.

* Page 13.

2. I now proceed to explain in detail the nature of the arrangements which I have made, and the expense which I have considered myself justified in authorizing, for the completion of this transfer.

3. Capt. Fremantle returned to Sydney on the 27th December, and I learned from him that there was a division of opinion among the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island as to the propriety of accepting the offer of the Government to transfer them to Norfolk Island, but that a large majority were in favour of the removal, and that in his opinion the then dissentients, when they saw that their friends were about to leave them, would not like to be left behind, so that the whole population would move together. Some wish was expressed by the islanders that their removal should be delayed till the winter; but as the Government is at some expense in maintaining an establishment at Norfolk Island for the sole purpose of keeping the buildings, &c. in a state to receive the new population, and as the buildings, gardens, &c., deteriorate rapidly in such a climate, I did not consider myself justified in entertaining such a proposition; and Capt. Fremantle entirely concurred with me in opinion that it would be better for all parties that no delay should take place.

4. Tenders were accordingly called for by the officer in charge of the Commissariat Department for the supply of a vessel of tonnage sufficient for the removal of all the inhabitants and their baggage from Pitcairn to Norfolk Island; and as the men now on the latter island had only rations of flour and tea up to the end of March, the terms of the engagement were that the vessel should first call at Norfolk Island and land provisions for the present settlers, then proceed to Pitcairn Island and embark the natives, with such stores as they might wish to take with them; then proceed to Norfolk Island and disembark these passengers; then taking on board the Commissariat officer in charge, and all his men and stores, should proceed to Hobart Town and land them there. Two vessels were offered for charter; but, under the advice of Capt. Fremantle, the tender for the "Morayshire" was accepted, though the cost was a little in excess of that of the other vessel, the "Morayshire" being a better vessel, with more complete fittings, and a most respectable captain. The charge for the vessel, including the maintenance of the passengers at 1*s.* each per diem, will be 4,478*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, while that of the stores hereafter alluded to will be 638*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*

5. In my Despatch, No. 135, I mentioned that some provision would have to be made for the maintenance of the new inhabitants of Norfolk Island, until they could gather their first crops; and accordingly I decided to send down certain articles of provisions, a list of which is enclosed. The maize was partly for seed and partly for food. Biscuit was furnished instead of flour, as the latter will not keep in that climate more than three months. I sent down but a small allowance of tea, sugar, and other luxuries, as they may be called, as my wish was that the inhabitants should learn to depend upon their own industry for such supplies. Upon the recommendation of Captain Fremantle, I directed that a certain number of shoes should be purchased for the women and children. Gunpowder and shot I sent down in small quantities; this will be required, for many of the cattle have run wild and will have to be shot, as will also be the case with the pigs.

Enclosure 1.

6. In my Despatch above mentioned, I suggested that some authority should be established in Norfolk Island, who might regulate the allotment of land to the families, &c.; but upon further conversation with Captain Fremantle, I ascertained that the islanders themselves have placed a magistrate in authority, and are disposed to submit to his decisions. The effect, therefore, of placing any person on the island vested with powers emanating either from Her Majesty, or from the Governor of any of the adjacent Colonies, would be to generate parties, and lead to a disruption of the ties which at present seem to unite the whole community as one family. I beg, therefore, to withdraw my former recommendation.

7. As, however, the islanders would naturally require some assistance on first landing at Norfolk Island, I requested Captain Fremantle to nominate an officer in whom he could thoroughly confide, to act as agent on board the "Morayshire," which officer, when the vessel has landed her passengers at Norfolk

Island, will remain on the island until removed by Captain Fremantle, and will carry out the instructions given to him by me (a copy of which is enclosed). Enclosure 2.

8. These instructions relate, first, to the conduct of the officer while on board the vessel, and to this portion of them it is not necessary that I should draw your attention, further than to remark that I have enforced upon Mr. Gregorie the strictest attention to the separation of the new comers from the convicts now on the island. In paragraph 7, and in those that follow, I have given general instructions for the guidance of Mr. Gregorie in settling the new comers upon the land. You will see that I have directed him to make but few reserves for public purposes, and with these exceptions to divide the whole island between the new comers; and my object in so doing was to check any attempt which might be made on the part of the inhabitants of the Australian Colonies to establish themselves on the island.

9. I propose to send down a surveyor or two to assist Mr. Gregorie in this part of his duty, and I shall probably be then able to give him some more precise instructions as to the mode in which he should act, as I may be able to get from Van Diemen's Land a plan of the island.

10. I have, however, as you will observe in these instructions, warned Mr. Gregorie not to assume any authority over the islanders, but to act in concert with the magistrate or local authority, and principally as an adviser.

11. In taking upon myself to give directions for the distribution of the land among the islanders, I am aware that I have, to a certain extent, overstepped the precise limits of my authority; for, as Norfolk Island is attached to the Government of Van Diemen's Land, it would of course rest with the Governor and Legislature of that Colony to make such rules for the disposal of the land as might seem best to them. As, however, all the arrangements for the transfer of the island to its new inhabitants have been intrusted to me by Her Majesty's Government, I have not hesitated to take the responsibility upon myself, as I conceived it absolutely essential to the success of the experiment which is about to be made that the land should be transferred to the new comers in such a manner as to give them a right to deal with it as their own, and that some record should exist in the shape of plans or written documents, to which they might hereafter appeal, should any questions arise among them as to the boundaries of property.

12. In a former Despatch from Van Diemen's Land, in December 1854, I suggested that the island should be retransferred to New South Wales. I wish now to modify this recommendation, and to suggest that Norfolk Island should not form part of any of the adjacent Colonies, but should be kept altogether distinct from and independent of them. The effect of making it a part of any of these Colonies would be to confer upon the legislatures the right of dealing with the people and the land according to their will and pleasure; and thus an opportunity would be afforded for interfering with the experiment which is now about to be made. Such interference could not be useful, and would, probably, be injurious. I would, therefore, press most earnestly upon your notice the propriety of withdrawing the island from the jurisdiction of the adjoining Colonies.

13. The Governor General of the Australian Colonies might nave a nominal jurisdiction, in order that the people should have somebody to whom they might make their wants known, and through whom they may correspond with Her Majesty's Government upon the subject of the changes in the form of government which will in course of time become necessary, or upon such matters as they may not be able to arrange among themselves.

14. I forward herewith a copy of a letter which I addressed to the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island by the hands of Mr. Gregorie. I have taken a great interest in all the arrangements for the transfer of those people to Norfolk Island; and I should very much wish to be allowed to pay a visit to that island, for the purpose of seeing how the experiment succeeds. Enclosure 3.

15. Should I be enabled to pay this visit to Norfolk Island, I shall be in a position to form a better idea of the effect produced by a change of residence from a small and sterile island to one comparatively large and of exceeding fertility, upon a community so peculiarly constituted. I shall ascertain what the wants and wishes of the people are, and such advice as I may give, or such instructions as I may be authorized to convey to them, will, from my position, carry a weight with them which cannot be expected to attach to those which

they receive from casual visitors. My instructions, as Governor of New South Wales, do not permit me to leave the Colony without previous permission from Her Majesty. I now beg to apply for such permission for the purpose above alluded to.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart. &c. &c. &c. (Signed) W. DENISON.

Encl. 1 in No. 14.

Enclosure 1 in No. 14.

STATEMENT of the COST and VALUE of the under-mentioned ARTICLES supplied for the use of the PITCAIRN ISLANDERS on their first arrival at NORFOLK ISLAND.

Articles.	Quantity.	Price.	Amount. £	s.	d.
Biscuit	14,000 pounds.	36*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lbs.	255	10	0
Salt beef	3,360 do.	119*s.* 6*d.* pr tierce, 336 lb.	59	15	0
Sugar	2,843 do.	29*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lbs.	41	9	2
Tea	504 do.	1*s.* 8*d.* per lb.	42	0	0
Soap	1,000 do.	40*s.* per 100 lbs.	20	0	0
Candles	336 do.	10*d.* per lb.	14	0	0
Maize	600 bushels.	4*s.* 3*d.* per bushel.	127	10	0
Shoes — Women's	84 pairs.	7*s.* per pair.	29	8	0
Shoes — Girls'	60 do.	4*s.* 6*d.* do.	13	10	0
Shoes — Children's	60 do.	2*s.* 6*d.* do.	7	10	0
Shot	224 pounds.	42*s.* per cwt.	4	4	0
Cartridges, small arms, blank	10,240	35*s.* per 1,000.	17	18	5
Barrels for ditto.	5 half, 1 quarter.	- - -	0	19	2
Lead, pig	6cwt. 0qr. 24lb.	14*l.* per ton.	4	7	0
			£638	0	9

Amounting to Six hundred and thirty-eight pounds and ninepence.

Commissariat, Sydney, March 1, 1856. (Signed) JOHN W. PRICE. D. A. C. G.

STATEMENT of the probable EXPENDITURE to be defrayed from the COMMISSARIAT CHEST at SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES, for the REMOVAL of the PEOPLE from PITCAIRN'S ISLAND to NORFOLK ISLAND.

Particulars.	Amount. £	s.	d.
Cost of advertising for tenders for a ship to perform the above service, in the Sydney "Morning Herald"	3	7	6
Ditto - ditto - ditto - "Empire"	3	0	0
Charter of the ship "Morayshire"	4,200	0	0
Cost of drafting and engrossing charter party	15	0	0
Cost of victualling whilst on board ship, say 184 persons for 28 days, at 1*s.* each per diem	257	12	0
Cost of stores, &c. shipped per "Morayshire," to be landed at Norfolk Island for their use on first arrival, as per statement	638	0	9
Total probable Expenditure	£5,117	0	3

Amounting to Five thousand one hundred and seventeen pounds and threepence.

Commissariat, Sydney, March 1, 1856. (Signed) JOHN W. PRICE. D. A. C. G.

Encl. 2. in No. 14.

Enclosure 2 in No. 14.

SIR, Government House, Sydney, February 1856.

I EXPRESSED to Captain Fremantle my wish that he would appoint an officer to superintend the removal of the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island to Norfolk Island, and I have received from him an intimation that he has ordered you to undertake that service. He has

also informed me, that directions have been given to you to conform to such orders and instructions as you may receive from me.

2. In this letter you will receive such general instructions as I am in a position to give; but from the manner in which Captain Fremantle has spoken to me of you, I feel that I can place perfect confidence in your zeal and intelligence, and I believe that you will exert yourself to carry into effect the very peculiar duties which will devolve upon you, in accordance with the spirit of the instructions which you may receive,—instructions which of course cannot be very precise or definite, but in which much must be left to your judgment and discretion.

3. First then, with regard to the removal of the inhabitants from Pitcairn's Island, I am informed that some of the families are disinclined to remove, and it is probable reference will be made to you as to the wish of the Government with relation to this. Should this be so, it would be as well that you should use your influence to induce the whole community to move together. But as the Government has nothing in view but the promotion of the happiness and welfare of the people themselves, you must not consider yourself at liberty to do more than advise the people to act in a manner, which, it is believed, will accord best with their own interests and future well being.

4. Those who embark should be warned to take with them all their stores of yams, &c.; for although provision has been made by the Government for their subsistence in Norfolk Island, yet it will be wise to guard against the possible risk which may occur to render this provision insufficient. They should also bring with them clothes, bedding, &c.; in fact, they should leave behind nothing which may be useful to them hereafter.

5. You will, of course, pay special attention to maintain the strictest separation between the crew of the vessel and the female passengers, on their way from one island to the other, and after their landing on Norfolk Island, bearing in mind that the simplicity of the islanders lays them peculiarly open to receive impressions from others.

6. On your arrival at Norfolk Island, you will make such arrangements for landing the islanders and their goods as will altogether prevent any intercourse between them and the convicts now on the island. The detail of these arrangements must be left to yourself, as they will of course vary according to the side of the island upon which the debarkation and embarkation will be made; but you will understand that the greatest stress is laid upon the complete separation of the new comers from the old occupants of the island, none of whom should be called in to assist in landing either passengers or stores, unless some absolute necessity should exist for so doing, in which case the rule respecting non-intercourse must be most absolute, and you may enforce it by any means in your power.

7. When the Pitcairn islanders are landed, you will arrange, in concert with the magistrate or whoever may be in authority amongst them, for their accommodation in the houses and buildings which are now standing. The officer of the Commissariat now on the island will probably be able to give you a good deal of assistance and information, which will facilitate these arrangements; and when this is settled, you will proceed to divide among the different families the land, which having been already cleared will probably be easier brought into cultivation than the bush land, and you will impress upon each and all the absolute necessity of proceeding to clear and cultivate it without delay. Maize has been sent down for seed, and sweet potatoes will be found on the island itself.

8. You will mark off a portion of the cleared land as a reserve for church and school purposes, that is, as a glebe for the clergyman which will be sufficient for his support; for that of a schoolmaster, say 150 or 200 acres.

9. You will also mark off as a reserve for public purposes a portion of land along the margin of the sea at both landing places, and it would probably be as well that the land now occupied by the gaol and some other of the public buildings should be included in this public reserve, unless they are absolutely required for private occupation.

10. Of the uncleared land a portion, say 500 acres, more or less, may be reserved for public purposes, the remainder should, I think, be handed over to the different heads of families according to some scale of distribution agreed upon between yourself and the magistrate, the object being to check as much as possible any attempt on the part of the inhabitants of the adjoining Colonies to settle on Norfolk Island.

11. No detailed instructions can be given for your guidance in the performance of this part of your duty. I will, however, if possible, send down by the Herald, a plan of the island, and at all events I will despatch by that vessel a sapper surveyor or two, who will be placed under your orders, and will assist you in the mechanical part of the work of allotting the land to different families.

12. I need hardly say that in all you do with reference to this distribution, you should be most scrupulously careful to consult the wishes of the new comers, and that you should act in concert with the magistrate on every occasion.

13. You will be specially careful to avoid mixing yourself up with any party movements among the islanders, of which I regret to hear there are some traces, originating, I believe, in some differences of opinion as to the position held by Mr. Nobbs. As regards your own conduct with relation to Mr. Nobbs, I have to instruct you to pay him such respect as the position which the island authorities acknowledge him to hold would entitle him to receive; but you will not listen to any claim on his part to be recognized as having authority beyond that freely accorded to him by the islanders themselves.

14. You will not hand over to him the land reserved for church and school purposes, which will be left at the disposal of the community, but will place him in possession of the allotment to which he will be entitled as head of a family.

15. As the islanders probably know nothing of the cultivation of maize, sweet potato, &c., which will form the staple of their consumption hereafter, it will be advisable that you should obtain from the commissariat officer in charge every information as to the proper seasons for planting or putting in those crops, the mode of cultivation, the season of gathering, and the mode of stowing them away. In fact, you should endeavour to collect, for the use of the islanders, all the information with reference to the natural productions of the island, and those which have been introduced, either as articles of food or of luxury, which may have been gained during its previous occupation, so that the new comers may not have to commence a fresh series of experiments, but may have the benefit of the experience of their predecessors.

16. With regard to the provisions which have been sent down now for the islanders, as well as to the tools and stores of different kinds which will be left for their use, it will be necessary that you should act in concert with the officer of the commissariat, and see that these are handed over to the magistrate, and that a proper receipt is given by him to the commissariat officer, as a release to the latter.

17. With regard to the distribution of these stores and tools among the islanders, you will interfere as little as possible, except when your advice is asked for—it being desirable that the islanders should learn as soon as possible to think and act for themselves under the novel circumstances of their position.

18. In conclusion, I must press upon you the necessity of acting rather as the adviser of these people than as one placed in authority over them. The influence which you will be able to exercise will of course be very great, and I have every confidence that you will exert that influence in promoting harmony amongst a set of people who are about to be placed in a position which may very possibly tend to stimulate those evil passions to which their residence in Pitcairn's Island hardly afforded scope or opportunity of development.

19. You will be good enough to keep a full record of your proceedings with relation to all the matters noticed in these instructions, and to make a full report to me, on your return, of the mode in which you have carried out the duty intrusted to you, in order that I may forward it for the information of the Secretary of State; and you will accompany this report with any suggestions which you may think calculated to facilitate the working of the experiment about to be made, or which may tend to the happiness and prosperity of the very interesting people who are the subject of that experiment.

(Signed) W. Denison.

To Acting Lieut. G. W. Gregorie, R.N.,
Agent on board the ship "Morayshire."

Encl. 3 in No. 14.

Enclosure 3 in No. 14.

My Dear Friends, Government House, Sydney, February 16, 1856.

I have sent you a fine vessel to take you to Norfolk Island. It will be large enough to make you all very comfortable.

Capt. Fremantle has informed me that upwards of 150 of your number had made up their minds to accept the offer of the Government, and to remove to Norfolk Island. I trust that the rest will make up their minds to accompany their brethren, for it will be very sad, both for those who go and for those who remain, should a community which has been so united and so happy in that union, now be broken up. I think also that the Queen's Government will be better pleased were you all to remove to your new home together.

I have sent in the ship a naval officer, one already known to you, Mr. Gregorie, of the "Juno," and have directed him to give you every assistance in his power, not only on leaving your present home, but in settling yourselves in that new home, which I hope will be as happy a residence, and a more prosperous one, than that which you are about to leave. You will find in your new home much that will be altogether new to you, much of which at present you know not the use; but Mr. Gregorie, during the short time which he will remain among you, will give you every information in his power; and you will have, I daresay, frequent opportunities of communicating with me. I trust you will look upon me as your friend, and will let me know your wants and wishes, which I shall always be glad to meet and to supply as far as will be in my power.

I have sent to Norfolk Island a supply of provisions, which I expect will be sufficient for at least five months. By that time, should you cultivate the soil industriously, you will have sufficient to maintain yourselves. Sweet potatoes grow very well in Norfolk Island, as does maize, of which I have sent you abundance of seed. I would, however, advise you to bring your whole store of yams, and of any other vegetables, so that you may be quite certain of having enough, not only for your consumption, but for seed.

I have told you, in the early part of this letter, that I think you would be happier and more comfortable were you all to remove from Pitcairn's Island; and one of my reasons for saying this is, that I do not think it probable that the Government will continue to send a man-of-war to that island so frequently as they have done. Should any of you persist in remaining at your present home, you must do so in the face of a warning that such a step would isolate them more completely from the rest of the world and from their friends than

they now are, and that the means of making their wants known to the Government will not be presented to them.

Both Lady Denison and myself feel the greatest interest in your welfare, and in all that concerns you; and it will be our study to afford you every assistance in our power. And we trust that you will long maintain that happy simplicity, and that true Christian character, which has gained for you the regard and esteem of your fellow-countrymen all over the world.

In the hope of becoming some day personally acquainted with you,

I remain, &c.
(Signed) W. Denison.

No. 15.

No. 15.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere to Governor Sir William Denison.

No. 47.

Sir, Downing Street, April 5, 1856.

I have received your Despatch,* No. 173, of the 27th of October last, relative to the location of the Pitcairn islanders in Norfolk Island.

* Page 16.

I quite approve of your proposal to send a competent person acquainted with Norfolk Island to accompany the Pitcairn's people on their voyage to that place.

Having communicated with the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, I also approve of your design to furnish the Pitcairn's people with the provisions requisite for their support until they can grow their own food. At the same time I trust that you will incur no unnecessary expense, and I have no doubt that your own discretion will put you on your guard against any such prolonged support of these settlers as would impair the habits of industry by which they have hitherto been characterized.

I shall be glad if you will cause a statement of the expense incurred, and an estimate of the further amount that will be required, to be prepared and transmitted by the earliest opportunity in your power, with a view to its being possible to submit the application to Parliament in the colonial estimates for next year. These estimates are now usually prepared before the end of January.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

Governor Sir W. Denison, &c. &c.

No. 16.

No. 16.

Copy of a LETTER from Thomas Phinn, Esq. to Herman Merivale, Esq.

Sir, Admiralty, April 9, 1856.

I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Labouchere, a copy of a letter from Captain Fremantle, of the "Juno," with copies of its enclosures, respecting the state of Norfolk Island, and the projected conveyance of the Pitcairn islanders thither.

January 5, 1856. No. 3.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. PHINN.

H. Merivale, Esq. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 16.

Encl. in No. 16.

Extract of Letter from Captain Fremantle to R. Osborne, Esq., dated H.M.S. "Juno," at Sydney, January 5, 1856.

I beg leave to inform you that I returned to Sydney on the 27th ultimo, having visited Pitcairn's Island, Tahiti, the Navigator's, Friendly, and Figi groups, as detailed in my letters, Nos. 41, 43, 44, and 45, of 1855.

2. After leaving Ooaloee I touched at Norfolk Island to ascertain its present condition, and such particulars relating to the stock and property on the island as might enable his Excellency the Governor General to make suitable provision for the landing of and occupation by the Pitcairn islanders.

3. I found Norfolk Island in charge of an assistant commissary storekeeper, Mr. Stewart, with only 12 men, principally convicts, to look after the stock; all the rest of the people had left in May last, and the Pitcairn islanders had been expected since August. There was great dissatisfaction amongst the persons now there, at the prospect of being continued for some months longer, and Mr. Stewart, having already had great difficulty with them, felt some apprehension that he would not be able to maintain order. He appealed to me for support, and I summoned the residents to a general meeting, when I explained to them the prospect of being soon relieved, and enjoined the necessity of obedience and respect to their superintendent, pointing out that the consequences of their showing a refractory spirit might lead to the necessity of proclaiming martial law. Mr. Stewart seemed to think that this warning would set up his authority, and I therefore did not deem it requisite to adopt any further measures. The very small number of persons remaining being quite inadequate to keep up the buildings, grounds, fences, &c., great deterioration is going on in all ways; therefore I have recommended to his Excellency the Governor General that no time should be lost in transporting from Pitcairn's Island the new population. His Excellency concurs in that opinion, and I believe will take immediate steps for removing them.

No. 17.

No. 17. COPY of a LETTER from RALPH OSBORNE, Esq., to HERMAN MERIVALE, Esq.

SIR, Admiralty, May 22, 1856.

No. 9. Feb. 6, 1856. I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Labouchere, an extract of a letter from Captain Fremantle of Her Majesty's Ship "Juno," relative to the removal of the people from Pitcairn's Island to Norfolk Island.

H. Merivale, Esq. I am, &c.
&c. &c. (Signed) R. OSBORNE.

Encl. in No. 17. Enclosure in No. 17.

EXTRACT of a LETTER from Captain S. FREMANTLE, of H.M.S "JUNO," dated February 6, 1856.—No. 9.

A VESSEL has been chartered to remove the people from Pitcairn's Island to Norfolk Island, and will sail about the 18th inst. The Governor having applied to me to send an officer to superintend this service, it is my intention to detach Acting-Lieutenant George W. Gregorie, of the "Juno," a very intelligent young officer, for that object.

No. 18.

No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir WILLIAM DENISON to the Right Honourable HENRY LABOUCHERE.

(No. 85.) Government House, Sydney, May 26, 1856.

SIR, (Received September 12, 1856.)

* Page 25. I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch,* No. 10, dated 21st January last, on the subject of the transference of the Pitcairn islanders to Norfolk Island.

† Page 27. 2. You will have seen by my Despatch,† No. 37, dated 27th February last, that previous to the receipt of your Despatch I had already carried into effect all your instructions and suggestions, with the single exception of that which relates to the mode in which the land was to be divided among the new settlers. I have since sent down by Her Majesty's ship "Herald," commanded by Captain Denham, two sappers to assist Lieutenant Gregorie in apportioning the land among the emigrants; but I have at the same time so modified my former instructions, as will be seen by the enclosed letter addressed to Lieutenant Gregorie, as to require any such apportionment to be made subject to my approval. I trust to be able to run down to Norfolk Island next year, and to

May 16, 1856.

be able to give you a full report of the success of the experiment which is being made.

3. Captain Fremantle will go down to Norfolk Island in the "Juno" in the course of a few weeks, and I shall hear from him a full account of the proceedings which have taken place during the transfer of the new settlers from Pitcairn's Island to their new home.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. DENISON.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 18. Encl. in No. 18.

SIR, Government House, Sydney, May 16, 1856.

WITH reference to that paragraph in your instructions by which you were directed to divide the land at Norfolk Island among the families of the Pitcairn islanders, reserving only certain portions as specified for public purposes, I have now to direct you to do this, with a distinct provision that the arrangement of the land is subject to be revised and amended if necessary by the Governor-General of New South Wales, to whom all the arrangements connected with the settlement of the island have been entrusted by Her Majesty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. DENISON.

Lieutenant Gregorie,
Norfolk Island.

No. 19. No. 19.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir WILLIAM DENISON to the Right Hon. HENRY LABOUCHERE.

(No. 113.) Government House, Sydney, July 10, 1856.
(Received November 24, 1856.)
(Answered No. 3, December 10, 1856, page 39.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 47,* dated 5th April last, in which you direct me to furnish a statement of the expense already incurred in removing the Pitcairn islanders to Norfolk Island, and an estimate of any further outlay which may be required. * Page 33

2. In my Despatch,* No. 37, dated 27th February 1856, I furnished a statement of the cost of the preparations which had been made both for the conveyance of the islanders to their new residence, and for their maintenance there until they could gather their first crops. The only additional expense which I can imagine to be necessary will not exceed 100*l.* for the pay and allowances of the sappers sent to measure the land and divide it among the different families. * Page 27.

3. I do not think that the inhabitants of so fertile a spot as Norfolk Island, who have been furnished with a sufficient supply of tools and other appliances, can have any claim to further assistance from the Government. I should like, however, to pay a visit to the island, for the purpose of explaining to the people their position, and of encouraging them to exert themselves for the purpose not only of providing food, but of producing such articles as may meet with a sale in the adjoining colonies, and thus enable them to purchase clothing, shoes, &c., which they may not be able to produce for themselves. The cost of this voyage, which if made, as it probably will be, in one of Her Majesty's ships on this station, will not amount to much; but the precise sum cannot, of course, be stated, as it must be contingent upon the length of the voyage to and from the island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. DENISON.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 20.

No. 20.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir William Denison to the Right Honourable Henry Labouchere.

(No. 128.) Government House, Sydney, August 16, 1856.
(Received November 28, 1856.)

Sir, (Answered No. 3, December 10, 1856, page. 39)

I have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a report addresed to Captain Fremantle, R.N., by Acting Lieutenant Gregorie, who was placed in charge of the vessel despatched to Pitcairn's Island for the purpose of conveying the inhabitants to Norfolk Island.

2. I have not received Lieutenant Gregorie's official report to myself, but the enclosed statement of his proceedings will make Her Majesty's Government aware of the main facts connected with the settlement of the islanders at their new home.

3. I enclose also a requisition for further supplies of provisions, which has been forwarded for my consideration, with a statement of the probable cost. I do not propose to act upon this at present, but shall wait for the return of Captain Fremantle, and then, after discussing the matter fully with him, I shall take upon myself the responsibility of deciding whether to comply with the requisition or not. My present feeling would induce me to comply with it very partially. I should certainly not send any preserved potatoes, and as regards shoes, I should, I think, put a price upon them, to be paid by the islanders in produce of some kind; in fact, I wish to discourage any idea that the inhabitants of Norfolk Island are to look beyond their own unaided exertions for their future means of subsistence. They should rather contribute now to the necessities of others, and I trust that this view will be acted upon in England. The happiness of this interesting people will depend upon the development of industrious habits, which will be very much checked by making them the recipients of donations for any purpose whatever.

4. I forward a communication addressed to Sir Henry Young by the Rev. Mr. Nobbs, asking that a convict named Field might be allowed to return to Norfolk Island, for the purpose of instructing the islanders in various matters as to which they are at present in a state of ignorance. This man was forwarded to Sydney by the "Morayshire," but I have directed that he should be sent back to Hobart Town, as I cannot but consider the introduction of the convict element in the shape of an old unmarried sheepstealer (for such I find was the crime for which he was transported) as most objectionable.

* * * * * * * * *

Should I find that some assistance is likely to be required, in order to enable the islanders to take full advantage of their position, some steady married man with a family might be induced to settle on the island by the promise of a grant of land; but much care should be exercised in the selection of such a person. Upon this subject, however, I shall be able to speak more decisively when I have communicated with Captain Fremantle.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, &c. &c. &c. (Signed) W. DENISON.

Encl. 1 in No. 20.

Enclosure 1 in No. 20.

Selection from Narrative of Lieutenant Gregorie, of the "Juno," who was employed to superintend the Transport of the Islanders.

Our proceedings hitherto have been attended with great success. We have brought the whole community away and landed them all in safety on this island.

We got the westerly winds one day before we arrived in the latitude of it; and they took us right up to Pitcairn, where we arrived the 22nd of April. We had no accident, or anything out of the common, on the passage. The captain I found a good sailor. He seemed to take a great interest in the duty, and was very anxious to make the fittings below as comfortable and convenient as possible for the passengers. They got the "between decks" very clean on the passage; and it really looked very nice and comfortable on our arrival. The three mates were quiet, civil men, and just such as I should have picked for the duty. The crew

also, were a quiet set; we had no disturbance or a single punishment the whole time. We left Mr. Sheppard, the botanist, at Norfolk Island, and took the gardener on to Pitcairn. We had another passenger on board, a Mr. Robinson; he is a clerk in Mr. Campbell's (the agent of the ship) office. He had been violently ill at Sydney, and just as we were leaving was ordered by his doctor to take a sea voyage if he wished to save his life; so he came on board us just at the last moment. He is an elderly man, and a nice sensible fellow, and has been very attentive and kind to the islanders. I am happy to say he has quite recovered his health. We arrived at Pitcairn about 4 P. M. on the 22nd of April, and were immediately boarded by two men in a canoe,—they had no whale boat in good enough repair to come out. The captain and myself landed at once. Of course, being a merchant ship, I did not find near the number on the beach to welcome us as we had in the "Juno;" but the news gradually spread that it was "the ship" come, and that an old friend had been sent to fetch them, so that before we arrived at the village we had the greater part of the people flocking round us. I was happy to find them in good health, with a few exceptions; but the only one dangerously ill was an infant of Jonathan Adams (son of old George), who had been taken with convulsions the day before we arrived, and who they did not expect to live — they had already begun to make its coffin. Poor Edward Quintal, the singing master, had died since we were there in the "Juno." There had been seven births and one marriage— Jacob Christian and Maria Quintal. Frederick Young was still magistrate. I assembled everybody in the school-house directly we landed, while he read the Governor's letter to them. In the evening we had a meeting to try and find out who was going, and arrange about the embarkation. We seemed to have taken them rather by surprise; they said they did not expect us before August, and were therefore not in such a state of preparation for us as they wished to be. We found several families at first very undecided about going; Charles and Jacob Christian's, Margaret M'Coy's, Simon Young's, and old George Adams', strongly against it. However, about the third day we were there they were all packing up, except George Adams' family; and even he had yielded so far as to say, that if his grandchild (the sick baby) was either dead or well enough to be removed by the time we were ready, he would join us too: the idea of burying the child at sea was one of his principal reasons for not going. We arrived on the Pitcairn Monday, so we adopted their day in order to have the week before us. The islanders strongly advised us not to get our long boat out: they undertook to do the whole of the boat work, and let the captain have his complete crew on board. They said that our life-boat and whale-boat, and their own whale-boat, which they patched up sufficiently to work, were as much as they could manage. I found them plentifully supplied with chests and packing-cases. I am sorry to say we arrived in the worst season of the year for the yams; all the last year's stock had been consumed, and the present ones were too young for digging. However, before we left we collected a sufficient quantity for seed. We could not work the boats for the first two days on account of the ship getting down to leeward and not being able to get up again. We had very fine weather on the whole, the wind blowing right off Bounty Bay almost the whole time. Everything was brought off as safely as possible, and without the slightest risk to man or boat. We brought away everything belonging to them except the bare houses, with the old tables and stools in them, and four canoes. On the Monday following, the day we arrived, Jonathan's child rallied a good deal; and so old George and all his family decided upon going. By the Tuesday night we had everything off except the people themselves; and the small quantity of clothes, &c., they were obliged to keep till they went themselves. We brought away all their hogs; they wished them taken on account of their rooting the graves up, also as many fowls as they could catch. We brought four weeks' stock of sweet potatoes, besides those for seed, and a large quantity of oranges and sugar-cane. We lost Wednesday and Thursday again from the ship being so far off; but on Friday the 3rd of May (we never changed the day of the month) we embarked all the people safely and sailed in the evening. I thought they showed very little emotion at leaving their old island; indeed, I was disappointed at not seeing more, though certainly they had been leaving for so long that a great deal of their sorrow must have deadened. But I think they are rather inclined to make fun of anything; their spirits were very high during the whole of the embarkation. We left upon Pitcairn's Island one bull and nine cows, several goats and fowls, and a few sheep. The moment the people got on board the sea-sickness began, and such terrible sea-sickness I never witnessed. The men and children got over it in a few days, but the women were more or less sick the whole passage. Two of them were very dangerously ill; we scarcely expected them to live through the night once or twice. The hospital, which only held three persons, was soon filled; but the captain gave up three of his cabins, one for Jonathan Adams and his sick child, another for Mr. Nobbs' reading-room, and a large one as a general hospital for the worst of the sick ones who could not stand the heat and noise below. Miriam Christian had a baby born on the passage; she got through her confinement wonderfully well; the child is christened Reuben Denison. The voyage passed over very smoothly and comfortably; the women used to be on the poop nearly all day long sewing, and the children playing about on the quarter-deck. The men were very handy at any work that was going on, except going aloft, and that very few of them could be persuaded to do. We used to have morning and evening prayers, and afternoon service down below every day, and full service upon deck on Sunday when the weather permitted.

The captain would not venture near enough to the islands to get the Trades, and consequently made rather a bad passage. We ran the first 1,300 miles very well, but after that

we had very light fair winds, or else strong westerly ones. The only island we sighted was Pylstart, the most southerly of the Friendly group. This island caused the greatest excitement amongst the people, being the first strange land the greater part of them had ever beheld. They all seemed to like the ship's provisions very much, especially salt beef and pea soup; they are also very fond of flour, and soon got in the way of making little loaves and even plum-puddings. We had no trouble at all with the crew; they kept themselves very clear of the women. On the morning of Friday, the 6th of June, the interest and excitement of the people was roused to the highest pitch by Norfolk Island being reported in sight, and it was increased again in the afternoon by our seeing a man-of-war running towards us from the island; for I cannot tell you how anxiously every one of them is expecting to see the "Juno." The thought of that has cheered them ever since we left; they say that never has a man-of war visited them, whose whole crew, officers and, men has showed so much interest and friendship for them as the "Juno's." The man-of-war, however, proved to be the "Herald;" she ran down close enough to exchange numbers with us, and then hauled her wind again. The island was in the wind's eye of us; we had no communication either with her or the shore that night. Saturday morning we found ourselves close to the "Herald," about five miles off Cascade Bay. We were becalmed for half an hour about 8 A.M., so Mr. Smith took advantage of it to board us and obtain the particulars of the passage, which were sent on shore at once to Captain Denham. I did not like to go myself, for fear of not being able to get off again; and should not have liked to have left them a single night on board without being with them. The "Herald" anchored to leeward of Nepean Island about noon; but as we did not get up to her till after four in the afternoon, we remained under weigh all night. We hove to while the "Herald's" boat came off from the shore with our letters and despatches. Captain Denham sent off to tell me to land all those who were very sick at once in his boat. I therefore sent Fletcher Nobbs with his wife, who was very close to her confinement, but the boat returned again with them, the bar having risen too high to land safely. Captain Denham also sent to tell me that the landing of the people would take place to-morrow, although Sunday. The "Herald's" boats, he kindly said, should be put under my directions the first thing in the morning, while he would attend on shore and escort them up to the new military barracks, which had been prepared for them. We were both at anchor off the settlement at half-past eight on Sunday morning, a fresh breeze blowing from the N.W., which gave the men a very heavy pull on shore; but with two of our own boats, and the assistance of three from the "Herald," we landed every one safely by about two o'clock in the afternoon. An English whaler that was standing off and on at the time also sent one of her boats to take a load of people on shore. After every one was landed I went on shore myself. The people seemed very comfortable in the barracks; they had their rations of beef, biscuit, tea, and sugar issued already for them. We had afternoon service in one of the barrack rooms, and thanksgiving returned for our prosperous voyage. Capt. Denham had not thought fit to confine the convicts; he seemed to think that, with a man-of-war on the spot, there was not a chance of their misbehaving themselves, or even, if they showed any symptoms of it, they could be embarked in an instant, and in the meantime they were most invaluable in their assistance.

Wednesday, 18th June.—I am most grieved to have to report the death of Jonathan Adams' little baby. It seemed so much better during the cruise that I began to hope there was a chance of its final recovery; but shortly after our landing it had a relapse of its convulsions, and was carried off in one of them on Saturday afternoon. Susan (Fletcher Nobbs' wife) has since had a girl born, which preserves our population (194) the same. The weather hitherto has been very unpropitious for landing. In last week we were only able to work on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. On Saturday the ship had to slip her cable, and has not been close again till late this evening. We have only lost to-day by her not being up, for on Monday and Tuesday there was no landing on either side of the island. The delay has been of the greatest advantage to the islanders, for the convicts showed themselves so anxious to assist and instruct the people that Captain Denham has allowed one of them to go with each party of the islanders here and there to initiate them into the uses of the many implements novel to them. They have been instructed in ploughing, using the windmill, yoking bullocks, &c., while the "Herald's" artificers have had a party at the blacksmith's shop and the saw pits. They are exceedingly quick in learning. I think they are all very happy, and seem delighted with the island and everything on it. Most of them say already that they should like very well to visit Pitcairn again, but that they prefer living at Norfolk decidedly. The people seemed very much afraid that, from our having arrived at Pitcairn at the wrong season for yams, and finding scarcely any vegetables here, that they would be short of provisions for a longer period than three months. Captain Denham has therefore instructed me to write a requisition for some more, which I have accordingly sent for your approval. With regard to the division of land, the heads of families unanimously say that they will not want the land allotted out for many years yet, but think that it would be much better to cultivate in common while there are such a few of them compared to the size of the island. I think the Sappers will therefore be employed until you arrive in marking off the Government reserve, and correcting the old map as much as possible. They have already commenced the survey of the settlement. The men have put into the ground already all the potatoes we brought from Pitcairn, and weeded most of those we found in the island. The yams we shall not be able to put in before September, and corn about the same time.

Enclosure 2 in No. 20. Encl. 2 in No. 20.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY, Norfolk Island, June 24, 1856.

THE community late of Pitcairn Island would respectfully state, that in consequence of their inexperience in pastoral and other avocations necessarily connected with their new home, without some competent instructor, they will find themselves at a loss how to conduct their necessarily varied employments. Now there is a Crown prisoner (Wm. Field by name) about to embark for Hobart Town in the "Morayshire," who, from what we have seen and heard of him, is competent and willing to give us material and very efficient assistance in these matters. He is an old man, and we think a reformed man, and if your Excellency will sanction his return hither, and he conducts himself in the manner we have reason to think he will, we shall consider it our imperative duty to make his declining years as comfortable as our circumstances will permit, and in conformity with the mandates of our common Lord and Saviour.

With the greatest respect, we beg leave to subscribe ourselves your Excellency's humble and obedient servants, in the name and on the behalf of the whole community late of Pitcairn Island.

(Signed) FREDERICK YOUNG, Magistrate.
JOHN ADAMS, Councillor.
GEORGE H. NOBBS, Chaplain.

His Excelleney Sir H. F. Youug, &c. &c. &c.

No. 21. No. 21.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. HENRY LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir WILLIAM DENISON.

(No. 3.)

SIR, Downing Street, December 10, 1856.

I HAVE received your Despatches,* Nos. 113 and 128, of the 10th of July and the 16th of August, containing further reports respecting the transfer of the Pitcairn's islanders to Norfolk Island. * Pages 35 & 36.

I enclose for your information the copy of a letter which I have caused to be addressed on this subject to Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, accompanied by an estimate, which I have recommended to be submitted to Parliament, of the amount to be provided for defraying the expenses of this service. Dec. 10, 1856.

It is gratifying to see that the transfer of these people from one island to the other was effected with so much success and in such good order. The execution of this service reflects credit upon Lieutenant Gregorie and upon all the other persons engaged in its performance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

Governor Sir William Denison, &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 21. Encl. in No. 21.

SIR, Downing Street, December 10, 1856.

WITH reference to your letter of the 2nd of April last, relative to the expenditure that would be required for removing the Pitcairn's islanders to Norfolk Island, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Labouchere to transmit to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, the enclosed copies of Despatches from the Governor of New South Wales, containing statements bearing on the question of the amount that will be required for this service.

No. 37. Feb. 27, 1856. No. 113. July 10, 1856. No. 128. Aug. 16, 1856.

In his Despatch, No. 37, the Governor states the expense of transport at 4,479*l.*, and that of certain stores proposed by him at 638*l.* In his despatch, No. 113, he mentions that a moderate amount of about 100*l.* should be added for contingencies; but Mr. Labouchere apprehends that the provision for unforeseen demands should be larger. In his latest Despatch, No. 128, the Governor forwards a request of one of the officers superintending this service for further stores, which would cost 446*l.*, but from which the Governor expects to be able to make large deductions, and to omit altogether one article, which would cost 160*l.*

Proceeding on these data, I am desired to enclose an estimate, which, with their Lordships' concurrence, Mr. Labouchere would propose to submit to Parliament for the present service.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. MERIVALE.

Sir C. E. Trevelyan, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c.

Sub-Encl. in Encl. No. 21.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure No. 21.

ESTIMATE of the AMOUNT required to defray the Expense of the Removal of the INHABITANTS of PITCAIRN'S ISLAND to NORFOLK ISLAND.

	£	s.	d.
Freight and provisions to Norfolk Island - -	4,480	0	0
Stores for use of the settlers on first arrival - -	900	0	0
Contingencies - - - -	200	0	0
	£5,580	0	0

The inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island, about 190 in number, became unable any longer to subsist within the contracted limits of that island. This industrious and exemplary race had never cost anything to the British Treasury, but had always been attached subjects of the Crown, and ready to supply British vessels calling at their island. It was determined, therefore, to afford them the means of proceeding to Norfolk Island, from which all the convicts forming its previous occupants have recently been removed. The facts are more fully stated in papers laid before Parliament by command this Session.

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

VICTORIA (AUSTRALIA) ELECTORAL LAW.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 12 February 1857;—*for*,

A "COPY of the ELECTORAL LAW of the Colony of *Victoria* (*Australia*), passed by the Colonial Legislature, and forwarded to this Country for the Royal Assent."

Colonial Office,
21 March 1857.

H. LABOUCHERE.

ANNO DECIMO NONO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

By His Excellency Major-General *Edward Macarthur*, the Officer administering the Government of Victoria, &c. &c. &c.

No. XII.

AN ACT to provide for the Election of Members to serve in the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of Victoria respectively.—[Assented to 19th March 1856.]

Preamble. 18 & 19 Vic. c. 55.

WHEREAS by an Act intituled "An Act to enable Her Majesty to assent to a Bill as amended of the Legislature of Victoria to establish a Constitution in and for the Colony of Victoria" it was amongst other things enacted that there should be established in Victoria instead of the Legislative Council then subsisting one Legislative Council and one Legislative Assembly to be severally constituted as therein provided and it was also by the said Act enacted that the Legislature of Victoria in existence at the time of the proclamation of the said Act as thereinafter mentioned should by an Act or Acts to be for that purpose made and passed in the manner and subject to the conditions required in respect of any Act or Acts made or passed by such Legislature make all necessary provision for the compilation and revision of lists of all persons qualified to vote at the elections of members to serve in the said Council and Assembly respectively and for the registration of such persons and for the appointing of returning officers at such elections and for the issuing executing and returning the necessary writs for the same and generally for declaring and filling up all vacancies in such Council and Assembly respectively and for regulating the proceedings and taking the poll at all such elections and for determining the validity of all disputed returns and elections and otherwise for insuring the orderly effective and impartial conduct of all such elections And whereas the said Act was duly proclaimed in Victoria on the Twenty-third day of November in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-five And whereas it is expedient to make provision for the purposes aforesaid Be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governor of Victoria by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof as follows

Interpretation Clause.

I. In the interpretation and construction of the provisions of this Act the following words shall have the respective meanings hereby assigned to them unless inconsistent with or repugnant to the context that is to say

The words "Governor in Council" shall mean the Governor of Victoria for the time being acting with the advice of the Executive Council thereof;

The word "election" shall mean and apply as well to the nomination as to the election of any member of either the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly as the case may be;

The verb or word "poll" and the verb or word "vote" shall include and apply to the taking the voices or votes of electors by ballot;

The word "Council" shall mean and apply to the Legislative Council of Victoria;

The word "Assembly" shall mean and apply to the Legislative Assembly of Victoria;

The word "province" shall mean and apply to any electoral province mentioned or described in the said recited Act;

The word "district" shall mean and apply to any electoral district mentioned or described in the said recited Act;

The word "division" shall mean and apply to any portion of any electoral province or district to be defined by the Governor in Council as hereinafter mentioned;

The word "elector" shall mean any person who has or claims to have or is presumed by a collector as hereinafter mentioned to be entitled to a right to vote in the election of a member of the Legislative Council or the Legislative Assembly of Victoria respectively;

The words "candidate at an election" shall include any person nominated with his consent as a candidate or who shall have declared himself a candidate at any meeting held for the nomination of candidates for election for the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly whether such person shall be subsequently elected or not;

The words "returning officer" shall apply to any person duly appointed to execute any writ or precept for the election of a member or members to serve in the said Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly or to discharge the duties of returning officer under the provisions of this Act;

The word "list" shall mean the unrevised electoral list or register of electors;

The word "roll" shall mean the electoral roll of electors entitled to vote at the election of members of either the said Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly respectively; and

The word "qualification" shall mean the property or other qualification in respect of which any person may claim or be entitled to vote in the election of members to serve in the said Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly.

Provinces or districts may be divided and persons appointed collectors and registrars.

II. It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council from time to time to divide any of the said provinces or districts into any number of divisions and to assign the limits of the same and every such division to alter and vary as in his discretion he may think fit and also from time to time to appoint such and so many persons as may be necessary to collect compile and make out lists of the electors of each province district or division respectively and such persons so appointed shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed and considered collectors of the province or district or any division in or for which they are respectively appointed to act and also from time to time to appoint such and so many persons as may be necessary to be registrars under this Act and to fix or assign the limits of any province district or division for which every such person shall be appointed registrar and also to appoint one of such registrars in each province and district to be the chief registrar thereof respectively provided that whenever any court or courts of petty sessions is or are holden within any province district or division the person so to be appointed registrar shall be the clerk of such court or one of such courts as the case may be and also for such Governor in Council to remove any person appointed under the provisions of this clause and appoint another in his place and every collector shall forthwith after he shall have been appointed to that office in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six publish a notice according to the form contained in the Schedule to this Act annexed marked (A.) and numbered 1 accompanied with a notice according to the form contained in the said Schedule numbered 3 or to the like purport or effect respectively and every collector shall between the First day of January and the Seventh day of January in every succeeding year publish a notice according to the form in the said Schedule and numbered 2 or to the like purport or effect accompanied with such notice as aforesaid.

III. Every

Collectors to make out list of electors in their area of collection with marginal notes.

III. Every collector shall ascertain to the best of his ability the name place of abode and the nature of the qualification of every elector in his area of collection and shall before the First day of May in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and before the First day of March in each succeeding year make out in the form set out in the Schedule hereunder written marked (C.) a list of electors arranged in alphabetical order according to their surnames and in every year after the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six the collector shall include in such list the names which shall be upon the roll then in force for such area and every person claiming either in person or by a written notice or letter to be qualified as an elector and stating his name place of abode and qualification and if a freehold or leasehold qualification where the same is situate shall be inserted in such list.

Collectors to include doubtful claims in lists and object thereto.

IV. In case the collector shall have any reasonable doubt of the qualification of any elector he shall nevertheless include his name in such list and shall add the word "objected" before the name of any such person in the margin of the list and in every year after the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six such collector shall include in such list all names which shall be upon the roll then in force for his area of collection but shall add the word "objected" before the name of any person so taken from such electoral roll of whose qualication he has reasonable doubt specifying in all such cases the grounds of such objections and such collector shall add the word "dead" before the name of any person in the list whom he shall have reasonable cause to believe dead whether such name be or be not taken from the said electoral roll then in force and such words "objected" or "dead" having been so added shall be deemed an objection duly made to such name being inserted or retained on the electoral roll.

Collectors to deliver lists to registrars and to permit perusal thereof gratis.

V. Every collector shall on or before the First day of May in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and on or before the First day of March in every succeeding year deliver the lists so made out by him as aforesaid to the registrar appointed for the province or district or division respectively to which such lists relate and every collector shall retain a true copy of such list to be perused by any person without payment or fee at any hour from Ten o'clock in the forenoon to Four o'clock in the afternoon (Sunday excepted) during the period of Fifteen days next after his having delivered a copy to the said registrar.

Registrars to publish alphabetical list of their province district or division as in Schedule (C.)

VI. The registrar of each province district and division respectively shall on or before the Eighth day of May in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and on or before the Eighth day of April in each succeeding year from the lists so delivered to him cause a list of the electors of such province or district or division to be printed or fairly and legibly written and arranged according to the surnames in alphabetical order and he shall cause the same to be published as hereinafter directed for the period of Fourteen days ending on the Twenty-second day of May in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and on the Twenty-second day of April in every succeeding year.

Elector omitted shall send in claim.

VII. Any person whose name shall have been omitted from any such list and who shall claim to have his name inserted therein shall on or before the Twenty-fourth day of May in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and on or before the Twenty-fourth day of April in each subsequent year give notice to the registrar in the form in the said Schedule to this Act annexed marked (A.) and numbered 3 or to the like effect and the said registrar shall include the names of all persons so claiming as aforesaid in a list according to the form in the Schedule to this Act annexed marked (C.) and shall cause such lists to be published during the period of Seven days commencing on the Twenty-sixth day of May and ending on the First day of June in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty six and commencing on the Twenty-sixth day of April and ending on the Second day of May in each succeeding year and any person whose name shall have been omitted or who shall claim to have his name inserted in any list or whose name after the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six shall be on the roll then in force may object to any other person as not entitled to have his name retained or inserted in the list for the same division of a province or district and any person so objecting shall on or before the Third day of June in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and on or before the Fourth day of May in each succeeding year give or cause

List of electors making such claim to be published as in Schedule (C.)

Any elector may object to any name on list of his province district or division as in Schedule (B.)

to be given to the said registrar and also to the person objected to or leave at his usual place of abode or business or at the premises for which his name shall appear to be inserted in the list notice thereof in writing according to the form in the Schedule to this Act annexed marked (B.) or to the like effect specifying the grounds of his objections and to which objections and grounds he shall be limited and the said registrar shall include the names of all persons objected to either by an elector or by a collector as aforesaid in a list according to the form in the Schedule to this Act annexed marked (D.) and shall publish such list during the Seven days commencing on the Sixth day of June and ending on the Twelfth day of June in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and commencing on the Sixth day of May and ending on the Twelfth day of May in each succeeding year and the said registrar shall likewise keep a list of all persons so claiming as aforesaid and also a list of the names of all persons so objected to as aforesaid to be perused by any person without payment of any fee from Ten o'clock in the forenoon until Four o'clock in the afternoon during the said last-mentioned period of Seven days (Sunday excepted) and shall deliver a copy of such lists to any person requiring the same on payment of a sum of One shilling for each such list.

Lists of such claimants and of persons objected to to be kept for perusal gratis and sold for 1 *s.* per list.

How lists &c. to be published.

VIII. Every list or other document herein required to be published except where some other mode or place of publication is in this Act expressly provided shall be published by being inserted as an advertisement at least twice in each week during the period herein allotted for publication and if no period be allotted then at least twice in one or more of the journals (if any) circulating in the province or district or division in which such publication is to be made and also by being affixed or posted in some public or conspicuous situation on the outside door or outer wall near the door of the following buildings that is to say every court house police office or other place where petty sessions are ordinarily held and in districts beyond the limits of any town and in towns where no court of petty sessions shall be held then in some public and conspicuous situation within the province district or division in which the same is required to be published.

Duration of publication.

IX. In all cases in which any list or other document shall be affixed or posted as aforesaid the same shall continue so affixed or posted for a period of Seven consecutive days at the least and in case the same shall be destroyed mutilated effaced defaced or removed before the expiration of such period the person causing such document to be published shall as soon as conveniently may be after he shall have become aware thereof publish in like manner in its place another list or other document to the like purport and effect as the one so destroyed mutilated effaced defaced or removed.

Penalty for defacing lists &c.

X. Every person who shall wilfully destroy mutilate efface deface or remove any list or other document so affixed or posted as aforesaid during the period for which the same is hereinbefore required to remain so affixed or posted shall for every such offence forfeit any sum not exceeding Five pounds.

List not to be invalidated by reason of non-publication.

XI. No list or other document shall be invalidated by reason that it shall not have been published as aforesaid or affixed or posted in every place and for the full time hereinbefore required for publication thereof but the collector registrar or other person charged with the duty of publishing such list or other document as aforesaid shall be liable to the penalties of his neglect or wilful default as herein mentioned.

In case list of electors shall not be made out existing roll to be in force for following year.

XII. In case no list shall have been made out for any province or district or division by the collector thereof respectively by the day herein appointed for such purpose in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council at any time before the first election shall be holden for such province or district under the provisions of this Act to extend the time hereby appointed for the purpose aforesaid and whenever any such extension shall be made the various times hereby appointed for the completion of the lists prior to the revision thereof and for such revision shall also be extended in the like proportion as nearly as may be and if after the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six no list shall have been made out for any province district or division for any year or in case such list shall have been wholly unpublished the roll of electors for such province or district or division then in force shall be taken to be the list for such province or district or division for

for the year then next ensuing and the provisions in this Act contained respecting any list shall be taken to apply to such roll as aforesaid and in case no list or roll in lieu of a list shall be revised or prepared before the Thirtieth day of June in any year then such roll then in force shall be the roll for such province or district or division for the Twelve months then next ensuing.

Revision of lists to be made by Justices in Petty Sessions.

XIII. The revision of the electoral lists of each province and district and any division thereof shall be made by the court of petty sessions in or for such province district or division or some or one of them and in case there shall be no court of petty sessions in any province or district or division thereof respectively such revision shall be made by such court of petty sessions in any adjacent province or district or division as shall be directed by the Governor in Council and the appointment of such court of petty sessions for such purpose shall be published in the Gazette and a notification thereof shall also be transmitted to the registrar of the province or district or division the revision of whose list has been assigned to such court of petty sessions.

Registrars to transmit lists to courts of Petty Sessions.

XIV. The registrars shall on or before the Twelfth day of June in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and on or before the Twelfth day of May in every succeeding year or as soon thereafter as may be deliver or transmit the said lists with the marginal additions as aforesaid to the courts of petty sessions by which the same are to be respectively revised.

Revision Court when to be held

XV. Revision courts shall be held between the Twelfth and Thirtieth days of June in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and between the Sixth day of May and the Sixth day of June in each succeeding year and every such court shall be an open court and may be adjourned from time to time Provided that no such adjournment shall be for a period beyond the Thirtieth day of June in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and the Sixth day of June in any succeeding year.

Powers of Revis Court to summo witnesses &c.

XVI. At the time of opening every such court or commencing the business of revision and during the whole sitting of such court the registrar appointed under this Act for the province or district or division for which such court shall be held shall attend and produce the list and after the present year a copy of the roll then in force for each province or district or division and also the claims and a list of persons claiming to be inserted on the electoral roll then to be prepared and the list of the persons objected to as aforesaid respectively and the justices presiding in such revision court or conducting such revision shall have full power to summon such registrars and the registrars of the last or any preceding year and also all actual or late collectors of names or claims clerks of petty sessions or persons having possession or custody of any book or document relating to any such claim and to compel them to produce the same not being a private book or document and also to summon any other necessary witness and to examine such persons and witnesses and also all persons claiming to be inserted in or making or opposing objections to the insertion or omission of any name in the said list on oath or affirmation and if any person taking any oath or making any affirmation shall wilfully and falsely swear or affirm such person shall be deemed guilty of perjury and shall be punished accordingly.

Revision Court may insert nam

XVII. It shall be lawful for the revision court upon the revision of any list to insert therein the name of any elector omitted therefrom in case it shall be proved to the satisfaction of such court that such person gave due notice of his claim to the registrar as aforesaid and that he was entitled on the Twenty-fourth day of May in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six or on the Twenty-fourth day of April in any succeeding year to have his name inserted in the said list and the Twenty-fourth day of May in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and the Twenty-fourth day of April in every succeeding year shall be deemed and considered as the period of the registration mentioned in the said recited Act with reference to the qualification of electors.

Electors may oppose such insertion.

XVIII. It shall be lawful for any elector whose name appears in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six on the list or in any subsequent year on the roll of any province or district to oppose the claim of any such last-mentioned person to have his name inserted by the revision court in any list for the same division of any province or district as the case may be and such elector shall in the court and before the hearing of the said claim give notice in

in writing to the revision court of his intention to oppose the said claim and shall thereupon be admitted to oppose the same by evidence or otherwise without any previous or other notice and shall have the same rights powers and liabilities as to costs and other matters relating to the hearing and determination of the said claim as any person who shall have duly objected to the name of any other person being retained on any list of electors and who shall appear and prove the requisite notices as herein mentioned.

vidence may be ken as to elec- r's ability to read d write without s attendance.

XIX. It shall be lawful for any revision court to admit evidence as to the ability or attainment to read or write of any elector of whom such qualification may be required by the said recited Act without requiring the personal attendance of such elector or to require such attendance and to cause such elector to be examined or otherwise as the said revision court shall deem fit.

evision Court to mit such evi- nce as it may e fit in proof of alification of licitors doctors .

XX. It shall be lawful for any revision court in determining on the respective claims of the holders of Miners' Rights leases or licenses or of graduates of universities barristers solicitors medical practitioners officiating ministers and of unemployed naval and military officers respectively to have their names inserted in any list to admit counterfoils or blocks of receipts university calendars or lists law medical clerical navy and army lists or such other evidence although not strictly legal as such court shall deem fit in support of or opposition to such respective claims.

rsonal appear- ce of elector not cessary to sub- ntiate qualifica- ns except re- ired.

XXI. No elector for any province or district shall be obliged to appear in person to make proof of the nature and sufficiency of his qualification unless required by the revision court so to do and if such personal attendance shall be rendered requisite on the application of any person objecting to any such elector's name being retained or inserted in any list such objector not being a collector under this Act shall if his objection be not sustained pay to the elector such sum as the revision court may award.

vision Court to rrect electoral ts.

XXII. Every revision court shall insert in the list under revision by such court the names of all persons who shall be proved as aforesaid to be entitled to be inserted therein and shall retain on such list the names of all persons to whom no objection shall have been duly made and shall also retain thereon the name of every person who shall have been objected to by any elector not being a collector unless the party so objecting shall appear by himself or by some one on his behalf in support of such objection and prove the service and publication of the requisite notices and when the name of any person inserted in any list shall have been duly objected to and the objector shall appear by himself or by some one on his behalf in support of such objection and such objector not being a collector shall give such proof as aforesaid or being a collector shall produce a list with such words added as aforesaid or prove that such words have been so added as aforesaid the revision court shall require proof of the qualification of the person objected to and in case the qualification of the person so objected to shall not be proved to the satisfaction of the said revision court the name of such person shall be expunged from such list and such court shall also expunge from such list the name of every person who shall be proved to be dead or to have become disqualified or incapable of voting in any manner whatsoever and shall correct any mistake or supply any omission in any of the said lists in respect of the name or the place of abode of any person included therein or in respect of the nature or local description of his property or in respect of any qualification Provided that it shall not be necessary for any collector to give proof of the death of any person objected to by him Provided also that no person's name shall be expunged by such court from any list except in case of death or conviction of any felony unless notice as herein required in such case shall have been given or the word "objected" shall have been added to his name by the collector as aforesaid and the chairman of such court shall in open court write his initials against the name of any person so struck out and against any part of the list in which any mistake shall have been corrected or omission supplied and shall sign his name to every page of the several lists so settled and there shall be no appeal from the decision of such court to any superior court of law.

osts may be arded where y frivolous or

XXIII. If it shall appear to any revision court as aforesaid that any person shall under this Act have made or attempted to sustain any groundless frivolous or vexatious claim or objection to have any name inserted or retained in any

any list it shall be lawful for such court in its discretion to make such order for the payment by such person of the costs or of any part of the costs of any person in resisting such claim or objection and in every such case such court shall make an order in writing specifying the amount of such costs and by and to whom the same is to be paid and shall deliver the said order to the person to whom the said sum shall be ordered to be paid Provided that such sum shall not in any case exceed the sum of Twenty pounds Provided also that whenever any court shall have made any such order for the payment of any sum by any person it shall not be lawful for such court to hear or admit proof of any other objection or notice of objection made or signed by the same person until such sum of money be paid to the person entitled to receive the same or be paid into court for the use of the person so entitled.

vexatious objectio shall have been made.

XXIV. It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council from time to time to appoint a fit and proper person to be the returning officer of each province and district and to cause such appointment to be notified in the Government Gazette and from time to time in his discretion to revoke any such appointment and remove any person so appointed and to appoint another returning officer in the stead of the person so removed or whose appointment is so revoked and if any returning officer shall die before all the proceedings of any election shall have been terminated it shall be lawful for the poll clerk or if more than one the senior poll clerk to act as returning officer during such election until a returning officer shall have been appointed by the Governor in Council as hereinbefore mentioned And any person being a resident in any province or district refusing to perform the duty of returning officer for such province or district after having received a writ of election accompanied or preceded by an appointment shall unless incapacitated by sickness or by being a candidate for the province or district to which such writ refers forfeit any sum not exceeding Twenty pounds Provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to exclude any returning officer from being appointed a returning officer for a province as well as for a district or from being elected a member for any province or district except that for which he shall at such election act as returning officer.

Governor in Cou cil to appoint a returning officer for each province and district

XXV. Every person who may under the provisions of this Act be appointed a returning officer deputy returning officer or poll clerk shall before he enter upon the performance of the duties of his office make and subscribe the following declaration before any justice of the peace :—

Declaration of Returning Officer &c.

> "I (A. B.) do hereby declare that I accept the office of Returning "Officer (Deputy Returning Officer *or* Poll Clerk) for the province (*or* "district *as the case may be*) of and I do hereby promise and "declare that I will faithfully perform the duties of the same to the best "of my understanding and ability and I do further promise and declare that "if in the discharge of my duties I shall become acquainted with the name "or names of the candidate or candidates for whom any elector shall have "voted I will not divulge the same neither will I by any word or action "directly or indirectly aid in the discovery of the same unless in answer "to any question I am legally bound to answer or in compliance with the "provisions of this Act."

And such justice is hereby required to transmit such declaration by the first convenient opportunity to the Chief Secretary.

XXVI. The lists signed as aforesaid shall as soon as the same shall have been revised by the revision court be delivered or transmitted by such court to the chief registrar for each province or district who shall cause each such list to be copied and printed or written in a book or roll with every division arranged in alphabetical order and shall prefix to every name so copied printed or written its proper number beginning the numbers from the first name and continuing them in a regular series down to the last name and shall complete and deliver such book or roll together with the said original lists and a sufficient number of printed copies thereof on or before the Twentieth day of July in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six and on or before the Twenty-ninth day of June in every succeeding year to the returning officer of the province or district to which such list shall relate who shall safely keep the same and when any

Revision Court to transmit revised list to Registrar who is to send it t Returning Officer.

any returning officer to whom any such book or roll and lists shall have been delivered shall cease to hold that office he shall deliver over the book or roll then in force and all printed copies of such roll then in his possession together with the original lists so delivered to him as aforesaid to the person succeeding him in such office and every such book or roll shall be the roll for the province or district of which it purports to be the roll from the Twenty-first day of July in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-six to the Thirtieth day of June in the year One thousand eight hundred and Fifty-seven both inclusive and afterwards for the Twelve months from the First day of July in the year in and for which such roll shall have been made to the Thirtieth day of June in the succeeding year both inclusive.

Returning Officer to permit inspection of roll and furnish copy on payment of 2*s*.

XXVII. The returning officer of each province and district shall cause the roll of such province or district to be printed forthwith after the receipt thereof and also allow the same or copies thereof to be inspected and copies to be taken without any fee or payment and shall furnish or cause to be furnished a copy thereof printed or legibly written to any person applying for the same on the payment of the sum of Two shillings.

Governor to issue writs for first election for all general elections and for all elections of Members of Council.

XXVIII. For the purposes of the first election of the Council and Assembly respectively and for the election of members to serve in the Council in the place of those retiring by rotation resigning or whose seats shall be otherwise vacated in the said Council as provided in the said recited Act and for all general elections for members of the Assembly the writs for the several provinces and districts shall be issued by the Governor and no writ for any election when the Council or Assembly are not in session shall be made returnable in less than Thirty or more than Sixty days from the issue thereof Provided that as to the said first election the elections for the Council shall be held before the elections for the Assembly.

Speaker of Assembly to issue writs.

XXIX. Whenever after the first election or after any general election and during the continuance of any Assembly it shall be established to the satisfaction of the Speaker of the said Assembly that the seat of any member hath become vacant either by death or resignation or any other cause the said Speaker shall forthwith issue a writ under his hand and seal for the election of a member to serve in the place so become vacant during the continuance of the same Assembly and until the dissolution thereof and no longer Provided that if at the time of the occurrence in the Assembly after any general election of such vacancy from any of the causes aforesaid there be no Speaker and the Assembly be not in Session or if the Speaker for the time being be absent from the Colony then in any such case the Governor shall if he be satisfied of the existence of such vacancy issue a writ for the election of a member to serve in the place so become vacant during the continuance of the said Assembly and no longer.

Writ to be directed to Returning Officer who is to notify its receipt and the day of nomination, &c.

XXX. Every writ for the election of a member shall be directed to the returning officer of the province or district as the case may require and in every such writ shall be named the day and place of nomination for such election such day not being less than Seven nor more than Twenty-one days from the issue of the writ and also the day and places for taking the poll in the event of the election being contested and the day on which such writ shall be returnable and every returning officer receiving any such writ shall endorse thereon the day on which he received it and shall forthwith give public notice of the day and place of nomination the day and places of polling and the day such writ is made returnable as mentioned in such writ.

Acts to be performed on a day falling on Sunday, &c. shall be performed on next day.

XXXI. When any matter or thing shall be directed by this Act or by any writ issued in pursuance thereof to be performed on a certain day and that day shall happen to be Sunday Good Friday or Christmas Day such matter or thing shall be performed on the next succeeding day not being Sunday or Christmas Day.

Governor in Council to appoint polling places.

XXXII. It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council to appoint by proclamation so many places for each province and district respectively within the limits of such province or district as polling places for the purpose of taking the poll at any contested election and to appoint one of such polling places as the place for nomination of candidates and such polling places to abolish and in the same way to appoint others in their stead or to appoint any additional polling

polling places within the limits aforesaid as to the Governor in Council shall seem fit and at the time of appointing every such polling place to define the boundaries and limits within which all votes in respect of qualifications therein shall be taken at any election and such boundaries and limits to vary and alter as may be considered necessary Provided that in fixing the boundaries and limits last aforesaid regard shall be had that such limits shall be co-extensive with one or more of the divisions for which a roll or rolls shall have been prepared as aforesaid.

Proceedings at nomination.

XXXIII. The returning officer shall preside at a meeting to be holden at noon on the day of nomination and at the place named in the writ for the nomination of candidates and shall read aloud the said writ or otherwise make known the purpose for which such meeting is held and if there be no more candidates proposed at such meeting than the number of members to be returned the returning officer shall declare the candidate or candidates so proposed to be duly elected and make his return accordingly and in the event of there being more candidates proposed than the number of members to be returned the returning officer shall call for a show of hands separately in favour of each candidate and after such show of hands shall declare the person or persons on whom the election has fallen and shall make his return accordingly unless a poll be then and there demanded either by some one of the candidates or by not less than Six of the electors of the province or district on behalf of any candidate and if such demand be made for a poll the polling shall unless prevented as hereinafter mentioned take place at the different polling places for the province or district respectively on the day appointed in the writ for that purpose and no person shall be permitted to become a candidate who shall not have been proposed or have offered himself as a candidate at such nomination.

Returning Officer to cause booths to be erected.

XXXIV. The returning officer shall cause a booth to be erected or rooms to be hired at every polling place within his province or district for the purpose of taking the poll at any election and shall divide the same into compartments and may appoint one or more clerk or clerks for taking the poll at every such booth or polling place and shall furnish each of such clerks with a copy of the roll of the province or district for which the poll is to be taken certified under the hand of such returning officer as being a true copy Provided that there shall be at least one booth in each province or district or division thereof respectively for every Six hundred electors entitled to vote at such polling place and there shall be affixed over the entrance of each compartment certain letters (the entire letters of the alphabet being divided according to the number of compartments of the booth) and no elector shall be permitted to poll in any compartment unless his surname shall commence with one of the letters which shall be so fixed over the entrance of such compartment.

Returning Officer to provide a ballot room.

XXXV. At every booth or polling place there shall be one or more compartments or ballot rooms provided with ink and pens for the purpose of enabling the elector to mark the ballot paper as hereinafter provided in which room no person other than the returning officer or his deputy the poll clerk and the scrutineers of the several candidates to be appointed as hereinafter provided and the electors who shall for that time be tendering their votes shall be entitled to be present and any person other than such returning officer poll clerk scrutineers and electors actually recording their votes who shall intrude into such room shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanour Provided always that it shall be lawful for the returning officer and deputy returning officer or poll clerk to summon to his assistance in such compartment or room any member or members of the police force for the purpose of preserving the public peace quelling any breach thereof that may have arisen and for removing out of such room any person or persons who may in his opinion be obstructing the polling or wilfully violating any of the provisions of this Act.

Returning Officer to provide ballot box and papers.

XXXVI. The returning officer or his deputy shall provide a locked box of which he shall keep the key with a cleft or opening in such box capable of receiving the ballot paper and which box shall stand upon the table at which the returning officer deputy returning officer or poll clerk and scrutineers preside And each elector shall having previously satisfied as herein provided the returning officer or his deputy that he is entitled to vote at such election then receive from the returning officer or deputy returning officer or poll clerk a

Mode of voting.

ballot paper in the form in the Schedule hereunto annexed marked (F.) and which ballot paper shall be signed upon the back by the returning officer with his name and such elector shall in the compartment or ballot room provided for the purpose strike out the names of such candidates as he does not intend to vote for and shall forthwith fold up the same in such manner as will conceal the names of the candidates and display that of the returning officer written upon the back and deposit it in the ballot box in the presence of the returning officer or deputy returning officer or poll clerk and scrutineers and in case such elector shall be unable to read or shall be blind he shall signify the same to the returning officer or deputy returning officer or poll clerk who shall thereupon mark or strike out the names of such candidates as the elector may designate and no elector shall take out of such room any such ballot paper either before or after he has marked the same and any elector wilfully infringing any of the provisions of this clause or obstructing the polling by any unnecessary delay in performing any act within the ballot room shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanour.

Ballot papers.

XXXVII. After the nomination of the several candidates for the province or district shall have taken place the returning officer shall cause to be printed a number of ballot papers in the form (F.) which ballot papers he shall keep in his own custody and before the day of polling he shall deliver to each deputy returning officer such number of ballot papers signed by himself as shall be sufficient for the electors who may poll at the booth or polling place within such deputy's division and he shall also sign a sufficient number of ballot papers for the electors who may poll at the booth or polling place over which he shall himself preside and it shall be the duty of the returning officer and deputy returning officers to keep an exact account of such signed ballot papers.

Ballot papers to be numbered.

XXXVIII. Before delivering the ballot paper to the elector as hereinbefore provided the returning officer or deputy returning officer or poll clerk shall write upon each ballot paper so delivered to such elector the number corresponding to the number set opposite to the elector's name in the electoral roll and shall thereupon check or mark off upon a certified copy of the electoral roll such voter's name as having voted and such numbers so corresponding as aforesaid shall be sufficient *primâ facie* evidence of the identity of the electors whose names shall appear on the roll and of the fact of their having voted at the election at which such ballot papers were delivered.

Returning Officer to preside at one polling place.

XXXIX. The returning officer shall preside at one polling place within his province or district and shall appoint by writing under his hand a deputy or deputies or poll clerk to act for him and preside at each of the other polling places or booths appointed as aforesaid for taking the poll for such province or district or any division thereof respectively and a poll clerk for each compartment or ballot room when there are more than one.

Proceedings at election.

XL. At every poll the voting shall commence at Nine o'clock in the forenoon and shall finally close at Four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day unless adjourned as herein provided by reason of riot or other interruption and shall be conducted in manner following that is to say every elector shall vote at the polling place appointed for the division of the province or district respectively upon the roll for which his name shall be and every such elector may vote for any number of candidates not exceeding the number of members then to be chosen and any ballot paper recording a greater number of votes shall be rejected at the close of the poll.

Appointment of scrutineers.

XLI. Each candidate may appoint one person to be scrutineer at each booth or polling place and in every compartment thereof at the election and every person so appointed scrutineer shall upon his appointment make and subscribe the following declaration in the presence of the returning officer or deputy returning officer—

> I A. B., a scrutineer appointed by C. D., a candidate at the election of a member to serve in the Legislative Council (*or* in the Legislative Assembly *as the case may be*) for X., do hereby solemnly declare that I will faithfully assist at such election and that I will not attempt to ascertain for whom any elector shall vote neither will I by any word or action directly or indirectly aid in the discovery of the same unless in answer to any question which

which I am legally bound to answer or in compliance with the provisions of this Act.

Persons having distinct properties in different divisions.

XLII. No person shall vote in more than one division of any province or district though he shall be possessed of distinct properties in each such division.

How much qualification may be sold.

XLIII. No person having a freehold qualification at the time of registration or being qualified at such time in virtue of a leasehold estate in possession shall be precluded from voting on account of having sold aliened or disposed of any part of such freehold or leasehold estate respectively between the date of such registration and the day he shall offer his vote if he shall have retained an amount of such qualification sufficient in value or annual value to qualify him as such elector as aforesaid.

What enquiries may be made at time of election.

XLIV. No enquiry shall be permitted at the time of polling as to the right of any person to vote except only as follows that is to say the returning officer or deputy returning officer shall if he think fit or if required by any candidate or his agent or scrutineer or by any two electors entitled to vote in the same electoral province or district or division thereof respectively put to any elector before the elector shall have entered the ballot room or compartment hereinbefore mentioned and not afterwards the following questions or any of them and no other that is to say

1st. Are you the same person whose name appears as [A. B.] in the roll now in force for the province [*or* district] of [*here state the name of the province or district*].

2d. Have you already voted either here or elsewhere at this present election for the province [*or* district] of [*here state the name of the province or district*].

3d. Have you now the same qualification you had when registered or sufficient thereof to qualify you as an elector for the province [*or* district] of [*here state the name of the province or district*].

4th. Have you voted at an election for any other province [*or* district] since the first day of July last in respect of the qualification attached to your name in the roll now in force in this province [*or* district] of [*here state the name of the province or district*].

Person voting may be required to write his name.

XLV. The returning officer or deputy returning officer shall if he has reason to suspect that any person is personating or attempting or about to personate any elector or deceased elector or if called upon so to do by any scrutineer require such person to sign his name in a book to be kept for that purpose or on any ballot paper tendered by him and any person signing or writing the name of such elector not being his own name shall be deemed guilty of forgery and liable on conviction to be punished accordingly And any person being so required who unless unable to write shall decline or refuse to sign his name shall on conviction forfeit a sum not exceeding Twenty pounds.

Declaration may be required.

XLVI. The returning officer or deputy returning officer shall if he think fit or if called upon so to do by any candidate or his agent before any elector shall have entered the ballot room or compartment hereinbefore mentioned and not afterwards require such elector to make a solemn declaration in the manner following that is to say :—

"I A. B. do solemnly declare that I have not directly or indirectly "received or had or been promised for myself or for any other person any "sum or sums of money office place of emolument or reward by way of "consideration for giving my vote at this election or because of my voting "at this election."

And no person so required to answer the said questions or to make the said declaration shall be qualified or permitted to vote until he shall have satisfactorily answered such questions and made such declaration and if any person shall wilfully make a false answer to any of the questions aforesaid or shall wilfully make a false declaration in manner aforesaid he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction thereof shall suffer the like penalties as persons convicted of wilful and corrupt perjury.

No other oath, &c. to be required.

XLVII. No elector at any election shall be required to take any oath or affirmation except as aforesaid and no person claiming to vote at any election shall be excluded from voting thereat except by reason of its appearing to the returning officer upon putting such questions as aforesaid or any of them that the person so claiming to vote is not the person whose name appears in such roll as aforesaid or that he has previously voted at the same election or has exercised his right to vote in respect of the same qualification in some other province or district or has become disqualified or except by reason of such person refusing to answer the questions aforesaid or to make the said declaration.

Proceedings in case of riot, violence, &c.

XLVIII. Where the proceedings at any election shall be interrupted or obstructed by any riot or open violence whether such proceedings shall consist of the nomination of candidates or of the taking the poll the presiding returning or deputy returning officer or poll clerk shall not for such cause terminate the business of such nomination or finally close the poll but shall adjourn the nomination or the taking the poll at the particular polling place at which such interruption or obstruction shall have happened to the following day and if necessary shall further adjourn such nomination or poll as the case may be until such interruption or obstruction shall have ceased when the returning or deputy returning officer shall again proceed with the business of the nomination or with the taking of the poll as the case may be at the place at which the same may respectively have been interrupted or obstructed and the day on which the business of the nomination shall be concluded shall be deemed to have been the day fixed for the nomination and the commencement of the poll shall if practicable be put off for an equal number of days for which any such nomination may have been adjourned and any day whereto the poll shall have been so put off or adjourned shall as to such place or places be reckoned the day of polling at such election within the meaning of this Act Provided that no adjournment shall be made to any day beyond that named as the return day in the writ and if the election shall not have been completed by that day the returning officer shall specially return that fact and where any such poll shall have been adjourned by the deputy of any returning officer he shall forthwith give notice of such adjournment to the returning officer who shall not finally declare the state of the poll or the name or names of the member or members chosen until the poll so adjourned as aforesaid shall have been finally closed and the ballot papers delivered or transmitted to such returning officer and every returning officer and deputy returning officer shall have power and authority to maintain and enforce order and keep the peace at the election held by him and to cause to be arrested and taken before a justice of the peace any person reasonably suspected of personating or attempting to personate any other person for the purpose of polling at such election or who shall poll a second time or attempt to poll a second time or who shall cause a disturbance and the persons so respectively offending shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and be punished by fine or imprisonment.

Second ballot paper purporting to be of same elector may be received.

XLIX. In case the ballot paper as of any person shall have been received and any other person shall afterwards tender his ballot paper as of the same person the returning officer or deputy returning officer shall receive every such ballot paper but not allow such vote nor permit the same to be put into the ballot box and shall enter thereon a mark to distinguish the same from the ballot papers admitted and allowed at such election Provided such person shall duly answer the questions hereinbefore authorised to be put to and make the declaration herein required to be made by any elector at the time of tendering his ballot paper and sign his name in such book or on such ballot paper as aforesaid.

Deputy Returning Officer to seal and forward voting papers to Returning Officer.

L. Each deputy returning officer shall immediately on the close of the poll collect and seal up all the ballot papers which have been taken at the polling whereat he presided and shall with the least possible delay deliver or cause them to be delivered together with the roll supplied to him and signed by him and the poll clerk or poll clerks to the returning officer for whom he shall have been acting as deputy And such deputy returning officer shall also seal up in a separate parcel such ballot papers delivered to him by the returning officer as shall not have been used and also in a separate parcel all balloting papers received

received but not allowed by him as aforesaid (together with all books kept by him during the polling) and shall deliver or cause the same to be delivered to the returning officer for whom he shall have been acting as deputy and he shall at the same time deliver to such returning officer an account in which he shall state the numbers polled for each candidate and charge himself with the number of ballot papers originally delivered to him by the returning officer and specifying the number delivered to and used by voters and the number left unused and such account shall be verified by his signature and the signatures of such of the scrutineers as shall be then present.

State of poll to be announced.

LI. The returning officer of each province or district as the case may be shall at the place of nomination and as soon as may be practicable after any election shall have been held and before the day named for the return of the writ openly declare the general state of the poll at the close of polling as the same shall have been made up by him and he shall at the same time and place declare the name or names of the person or persons who may have been duly elected at such election And in the event of the number of votes being found to have been equal for any two or more candidates one or more of whom but not all of such candidates being by the state of the poll and the number of members to be elected entitled to be declared elected such returning officer shall by a casting vote or votes as the case may be and whether he be an elector for such province or district or not decide which of the candidates for whom the votes may be equal shall be elected Provided that no returning officer shall vote at any election for the electoral province or district of which he is the returning officer except in the case of an equality of votes as aforesaid.

Returning Officer to have casting vote.

Name of person elected to be indorsed on writ.

LII. The name or names of the person or persons so elected shall be endorsed on the writ by the returning officer and the writ shall be by him returned to the Governor or Speaker issuing the same as the case may be within the time specified therein.

Voting papers to be sealed up and transmitted to Clerk of Council or Assembly.

LIII. All ballot papers which shall have been deposited in the ballot boxes and all ballot papers received by any returning officer as aforesaid and all ballot papers signed by the returning officer which shall not have been used shall be sealed up separately in three parcels by the returning officer and shall be transmitted to the clerk of the Council or Assembly as the case may be who shall give or send a receipt for the same and shall safely keep the same for the period of Two years after the receipt thereof and the sealed packets containing the same shall on the outside thereof be described to be "voting papers" "used" or "unused" as the case may be of the province or district to which they relate and such memorandum shall be signed by the said returning officer and in case any question shall at any time arise touching any vote alleged to have been given at any election the ballot paper numbered as aforesaid containing such vote or a copy thereof with a certificate thereon under the hand of the clerk or other proper officer of the Council or Assembly as the case may be that the same was transmitted in due course by the returning officer of the province or district to which the same shall relate shall be received in evidence as a proof of such vote in any court of justice or by "The committee of elections and qualifications" hereinafter mentioned And the returning officer shall also make out and transmit as hereinbefore mentioned an exact account specifying the number of ballot papers originally signed by him the number delivered to voters and the number not used.

Delay or technical objections not to invalidate proceedings.

LIV. No election shall be held to be void in consequence of there being no returning officer at the time of the issue of such writ or in consequence of the non-appointment absence or inability to be present of the scrutineers or any of them as hereinbefore mentioned or in consequence of any delay in the holding of the election at the time appointed or in the taking the poll or in the return of the writ such delay not extending beyond the day named for the return of the writ or in consequence of any impediments of a technical or formal nature and it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council to cause to be adopted such measures as may be necessary for removing any obstacle or the doing of or the omission to do any act of a technical or formal nature by which or the want of which the due course of any election may be impeded Provided that the measures so taken as aforesaid shall be forthwith declared by the Governor by a proclamation to be for that purpose published in the Government Gazette.

Necessary expenses may be defrayed out of consolidated revenue.

LV. It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council to authorize the payment of all necessary expenses incurred by the returning officers deputy returning officers collectors registrars clerks and others in arranging copying printing and publishing lists and notices and otherwise in and about any election and also to cause to be paid such reasonable remuneration to the polling clerks and collectors as to the Governor in Council may seem proper and such expenses and remuneration shall be defrayed out of the consolidated revenue of the Colony.

Penalty on Returning Officer &c. neglecting his duty.

LVI. Any returning officer or deputy returning officer who having accepted office shall neglect or refuse to perform any of the duties which by the provisions of this Act he is required to perform shall for each such offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding Fifty pounds and any registrar or clerk at any polling booth as herein mentioned or any other officer or person not being a returning officer or deputy returning officer as aforesaid who shall neglect or refuse to perform any of the duties which by the provisions of this Act he is required to perform shall for each such offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding Twenty pounds.

Maps authenticated by the signature of the Surveyor-general to be received as evidence.

LVII. Maps descriptive of the boundaries of the electoral provinces and districts or any of them constructed as far as can or may be in accordance with the verbal description of the boundaries of the provinces and districts contained in the Schedule to the said recited Act approved of by the Governor in Council and authenticated by the signature of the Surveyor-general shall be received as evidence of the boundaries of such provinces and districts and such maps shall be issued to and used by the collectors registrars revision courts and returning officers in the discharge of their duties and no election or other proceeding under this Act shall be vitiated or invalidated on account of any discrepancy which shall or may exist between the said maps or any of them and the description contained in the Schedule to the said recited Act as aforesaid.

Election committee to be appointed.

LVIII. In the first session of the Council and in the first session of each new Legislative Assembly within Seven days after the election of a President or Speaker respectively of the said Council and Assembly and in every other session of the Council or Assembly respectively as soon as conveniently may be after the commencement of such session the President and Speaker respectively shall by warrant under his hand appoint Seven members who are willing to serve and against whose return no petition is then pending and none of whom is a petitioner complaining of any election or return to be members of a committee to be called "The Committee of Elections and Qualifications" and every such warrant shall be laid on the table of the Council or Assembly as the case may be and if not disapproved of by the Council or Assembly in the course of the Three next following days on which the Council or Assembly shall meet for the despatch of business shall take effect as an appointment of such committee Provided however that every member who shall become a petitioner complaining of an undue election or return or respecting whose return qualification or disqualification an enquiry is pending shall for the time be disqualified from serving on any such committee and the President or Speaker as the case may be shall name another member in his stead.

Council or Assembly may express disapproval of any member appointed

LIX. If the Council or Assembly disapprove of any such warrant the President or Speaker shall on or before the Third day on which the Council or Assembly shall meet after such disapproval lay upon the table of the Council or Assembly a new warrant for the appointment of Seven members qualified as aforesaid and so from time to time until Seven members have been appointed by a warrant not disapproved of by the Council or Assembly Provided however that the disapproval of any warrant may be either general in respect of the constitution of the whole committee or special in respect of any particular member named in the warrant and the President or Speaker may if he think fit name in the second or any subsequent warrant any of the members named in any former warrant whose appointment has not been specially disapproved of by the Council or Assembly as aforesaid.

Persons appointed members of election committee to continue members

LX. After the appointment of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications every Member appointed shall continue to be a member of the committee until the end of that session or until he resign his appointment which he may do by letter

letter addressed to the President or Speaker before such committee shall have met but not afterwards unless in the event of serious or continued illness but no such resignation shall take effect until Three days after the receipt thereof nor until the appointment of another member in the place of the one so resigning or until the committee report that he is disabled by illness from attending the committee or until the committee be dissolved as hereinafter provided. of it until end of Session or resignation.

LXI. If any Committee of Elections and Qualifications shall at any time report that by reason of the continued absence of more than Two of its members or by reason of irreconcilable difference of opinion it is unable to proceed satisfactorily in the discharge of its duties or if the Council or Assembly shall resolve that any such committee be dissolved the same shall be forthwith dissolved and every re-appointment of any such committee after the dissolution thereof as well also as every appointment to supply a vacancy in the committee by resignation or otherwise shall be made by the President or Speaker by warrant under his hand laid upon the table of the Council or Assembly as the case may be on or before the Third day on which the Council or Assembly shall meet after the dissolution of the committee or notification of the vacancy made to the President or Speaker as the case may be and such warrant shall be subject to the disapproval of the Council or Assembly in like manner as hereinbefore provided in the case of the appointment of the first committee and upon any re-appointment of any such committee the President or Speaker may if he think fit re-appoint any of the members of the former committee who are then willing and not disqualified to serve on it and every such new committee or new members shall have power if thought fit to take up and continue the business which may have been pending at the time of the dissolution or vacancy as aforesaid in the same manner as might have been done by the committee as previously constituted and composed. When election committee may be dissolved.

LXII. The President or Speaker as the case may be shall appoint the time and place of the first meeting of the said committee and the committee shall meet at the time and place so appointed but no member shall act upon any such committee until he shall have taken or made an oath or affirmation according to the form set forth in the Schedule hereunto annexed and marked (E.) to be administered or made at the table of the said council or Assembly as the case may be by or before the clerk thereof and the said committee shall not be competent to transact any business unless at the least Four members thereof shall be present. Time and place of first meeting to be appointed.

LXIII. Every such committee shall have power to adjourn its sitting from time to time as in its discretion it shall think proper provided that the interval of adjournment shall not in any instance exceed Five days unless the Council or Assembly shall be adjourned for a longer period or unless by leave first obtained from the Council or Assembly as the case may be and in case of the adjournment of the Council or Assembly to a day subsequent to the day fixed for the adjournment of such committee after such last-mentioned day shall have been so fixed then the next meeting of such committee shall be held on the day to which the Council or Assembly shall have been adjourned and in case Four members shall not have met together within half an hour of the time appointed for an original or adjourned meeting it shall be competent to the members to adjourn within the limits and subject to the restrictions aforesaid and every such committee shall elect its own chairman and shall have power to regulate the form and manner of its own proceedings Provided that such proceedings shall be conducted openly except when the committee shall think it necessary to deliberate among themselves after hearing evidence and argument if offered and all questions before the committee shall be decided by a majority of votes and whenever the votes are equal the chairman shall have a casting vote and no member of the committee shall be allowed to refrain from voting on any question on which the committee is divided and the said committee shall be attended by one of the clerks of the house who shall make a minute of all proceedings of the committee in such form and manner as shall be from time to time directed by the committee and a copy of the minutes shall be laid from time to time or at the termination of any enquiry before the Council or Assembly as the case may be. Powers of committee.

 LXIV. Every

Jurisdiction of committee.

LXIV. Every such committee shall have power to enquire into and determine upon all election petitions and upon questions which may be referred to it respecting the validity of any election or return of a member or members to serve in the Council or Assembly as the case may be whether the disputes relating to such elections or returns shall arise out of an error in the returns of the returning officer or out of the allegation of bribery or corruption against any person concerned in any election or out of any other allegation calculated to affect the validity of such election or return and also upon all questions concerning the qualification or disqualification of any person who shall have been returned as a member of the said Council or Assembly as the case may be and on the trial of any such question the committee shall be guided by the real justice of the case without regard to legal forms and solemnities and shall direct itself by the best evidence it can procure or that is laid before it whether the same be such evidence as the law would require or admit in other cases or not and it shall be lawful for such committee to receive or reject as it may deem fit any evidence that may be tendered to it.

Election committee may examine witnesses and compel production of books and papers.

LXV. Every such committee shall have power to direct the attendance of witnesses and to examine them upon oath which oath it shall be competent for the chairman of the said committee to administer and also to send for and examine papers records and other documentary evidence relating to or affecting the matter under investigation not being private papers and it shall be competent to any such committee if in its discretion it shall see fit to receive declarations relative to any of the matters referred to it taken before any justice of the peace in the presence of agents representing the opposing parties interested in such petition which declarations justices of the peace are hereby authorized to take and if any person summoned by any such committee shall disobey such summons or shall refuse or neglect to produce any papers records or other documentary evidence relating to or affecting the matter under investigation which shall have been sent for by any such committee or shall refuse to submit himself to examination or shall give false evidence or prevaricate or otherwise misbehave in giving or refusing to give evidence he shall be deemed guilty of contempt and be liable accordingly and any person wilfully or knowingly giving false evidence before any such committee or a quorum thereof or in any such declaration as aforesaid shall be deemed guilty of wilful and corrupt perjury and shall be liable to the penalties for such offence.

What questions may be entertained by election committee.

LXVI. No such committee shall have power to enquire into the correctness of any roll but simply into the identity of the electors the retention by them of a sufficient qualification and whether their votes were improperly admitted or rejected assuming the roll to be correct and whether any electors or persons entitled to vote gave their votes under the influence of bribery or corruption fraud force menace or other undue influence and if the committee shall find any vote to have been given under the influence of bribery and corruption fraud force menace or any undue influence by or on the part of any candidate or his agents committee-men or partizans or any of them such votes may be struck off and as often as any such committee shall find any elector to have been prevented from voting by fraud force menace or any undue influence by or on the part of any candidate or his agents committee-men or partizans or any of them it shall be competent to the elector so prevented from voting to tender his vote before the said committee and such vote shall be taken accordingly and on reckoning the votes received for any candidate such votes so rejected or received shall be taken into the account accordingly by such committee.

Report of election committee.

LXVII. Every such committee shall determine finally on all questions referred to it and if any such committee shall determine and report to the Council or Assembly that a person was not duly elected who was returned as elected by the returning officer any person so declared not to be duly elected shall cease to be a member of the said Council or Assembly as the case may be and if such committee shall determine and report any person to have been duly elected who was not returned by the returning officer the person so declared shall be sworn a member of the said Council or Assembly as the case may be and shall upon making the declaration required by law as to his qualification take his seat accordingly and if any such committee shall declare any election to be wholly void or shall declare any sitting member to be unqualified or disqualified

qualified the President in the event of the vacancy occurring in the Council shall notify the fact to the Governor who shall issue a new writ for the holding of another election and the Speaker in the event of the vacancy occurring in the Assembly shall issue a new writ for the holding of another election and the person thereafter elected and duly returned shall be the member for the province or district as the case may be for which such writ shall have been issued and if any such committee shall come to any resolution other than the determination above mentioned such committee shall and is hereby required to report the same to the Council or Assembly as the case may be for its opinion and decision at the same time informing the said Council or Assembly of such resolution and it shall be lawful for the said Council or Assembly as the case may be to confirm or rescind any such resolution and make such order thereon as to the said house shall seem proper.

Petitions against return, &c.

LXVIII. All petitions complaining of an undue election or return of a member to serve in the said Council or Assembly as the case may be or complaining that no return has been made according to the exigency of the writ issued for the election of a member to serve in the said Council or Assembly or complaining of any special matter contained in any such return shall be subscribed by some person who voted or claimed to have a right to vote at the election to which the same shall relate or by some person or persons claiming to have had a right to be returned or elected thereat or alleging himself to have been a candidate at the election and shall be addressed and presented to the President of the Council or Speaker of the Assembly within Thirty days after the next meeting of the Council or Assembly or within Forty days after the day of the return of the writ to which any such petition shall relate and in case the said Council or Assembly be prorogued before the expiring of such period of Forty days then any such petition may be presented to the said Council or Assembly as the case may be within such time after the next meeting thereof as together with the time expired before the prorogation that shall make up such period of Forty days and every such petition shall forthwith be notified in the Government Gazette and shall as soon as conveniently may be after such presentation be laid by the said President or Speaker before the Council or Assembly as the case may be and shall by the said Council or Assembly be referred to "The Committee of Elections and Qualifications" either forthwith or as soon as the said committee shall have been duly appointed and confirmed.

Petitions to be referred to election committee.

LXIX. It shall be competent for the Council or Assembly as the case may be upon any petition subscribed as aforesaid complaining of the insufficiency of the qualification of any member and presented to the President or Speaker at any time within Three months after such member shall have subscribed the declaration required by law to be made by him in his place in the said Council or Assembly and in case the said Council or Assembly be prorogued before the expiring of such period of Three months then any such petition may be presented to the said Council or Assembly as the case may be within such time after the next meeting thereof as together with the time expired before the prorogation that shall make up such period of Three months touching his qualification to refer the said petition and the question thereby raised to "The Committee of Elections and Qualifications" and it shall also be competent to the said Council or Assembly upon the like petition to refer to any such committee all questions respecting bribery or corruption alleged to have been committed at any election at any time within Twelve months after such election notwithstanding that in either of the above cases the period shall have elapsed for a petition against the said election or the return thereof according to the provisions hereinbefore in that behalf contained and in all matters connected with elections the acts of all authorised agents of a candidate or member shall be held to be the acts of their principal unless it be proved to the satisfaction of the committee that such acts were committed without his knowledge power or consent Provided that no petition touching the qualification of any member of the said Council or Assembly shall be received or referred to "The Committee of Elections and Qualifications" after the periods respectively above mentioned.

Election not made void by want of qualification of any returned candidate.

LXX. No election shall be held void in consequence of any one or more candidates being returned duly elected who shall by such committee be declared to have been unqualified at the time of such election although no notice of such

want of qualification shall have been given to the electors at the time of the election and the person or persons having the next greatest number of votes shall be declared duly elected.

Sum to be lodged as security for costs.

LXXI. Before presenting any such petition as aforesaid to the said President or Speaker as the case may be the persons by whom the same shall be subscribed or some one on their behalf shall pay into one of the banks carrying on business in Victoria a sum of One hundred pounds to the credit of the President of the Council or of the Speaker of the Assembly as the case may require in relation to the said petition which sum shall be payable towards the costs of the petition as hereinafter regulated and shall be liable to be withdrawn upon the order or orders of the said President or Speaker either for the purpose of such payment or for the purpose of restoring the same to the petitioner or petitioners wholly or in part as the case may require.

Elector may require to be admitted to defend petition.

LXXII. Any person who voted or had a right to vote at the election to which any petition relates may petition the Council or Assembly as the case may require to be admitted as a party to defend the return or to oppose the prayer of such petition or support the said petition in case the same shall be abandoned by the person by whom the same was presented and such person shall thereupon be admitted as a party to defend such return or oppose the prayer of such petition or support the same as the case may be.

Notice of intention not to proceed.

LXXIII. The petitioners may at any time after the presentation of their petition withdraw the same upon giving notice to the President or Speaker as the case may require and also to the sitting member or his agent and also to any party who may have been admitted to defend the return that it is not intended to proceed with the petition and in such case the petitioners shall be liable to the payment of such costs and expenses as have been incurred by the sitting member or other party complained of in such petition and also by any party admitted to oppose the prayer of such petition to be taxed as hereinafter provided.

Costs of frivolous and vexatious petitions defences or oppositions.

LXXIV. Whenever any such committee shall report to the Council or Assembly as the case may be that a petition so referred to them was frivolous or vexatious the parties (if any) to be named by the said committee who have appeared before the committee in opposition to such petition shall be entitled to recover from any of the persons also to be named by the said committee who subscribed such petition the full costs and expenses which such parties have incurred in opposing the same and whenever the committee shall report to the Council or Assembly that the opposition made to any such petition by any party to be named by them appearing before them was frivolous or vexatious the persons who signed the petition shall be entitled to recover from the party with respect to whom such report is made the full costs and expenses which such petitioners have incurred in presenting such petition and where no party has appeared before the committee in opposition to the petition and the committee reports to the Council or Assembly that the election or return or the omission or insufficiency of a return complained of in such petition was corrupt or vexatious the persons who signed such petition shall be entitled to recover from the sitting members or member (if any) whose election or return is complained of (such members not having given notice as aforesaid of their intention not to defend the same) or from any other persons admitted by the committee as aforesaid to oppose such petition the full costs and expenses which such petitioners have incurred in presenting the petition.

Costs of frivolous or vexatious objections or allegations.

LXXV. If any ground of objection be stated against any individual elector and the committee be of opinion that such objection was frivolous or vexatious it shall report the same to the Council or Assembly together with its opinion on the other matters relating to the said petition and the opposite party who shall be named by the committee shall in that case be entitled to recover from the party on whose behalf any such objection was made who shall also be named by the committee the full costs and expenses incurred by reason of such frivolous or vexatious objections and if any person shall make before the said committee any specific allegation with regard to the conduct of either party or his agents and either bring no evidence in support thereof or such evidence that the committee is of opinion that such allegation was made without any reason

reason or probable ground the committee may make such orders as to it shall seem fit for the payment by the person making such unfounded allegation to the other party of all costs and expenses incurred by reason of such unfounded allegation.

Costs and expenses how ascertained.

LXXVI. The costs and expenses which may become payable under the provisions of this Act by any party prosecuting or opposing or preparing to oppose the petition under the provisions of this Act or to any witnesses summoned to attend before the committee under the provisions hereof shall be ascertained by the said committee who shall upon application made to them deliver to the party entitled to such costs and expenses a certificate thereof signed by the chairman of the said committee expressing the amount of the costs and expenses allowed with the name of the party liable to pay the same and the name of the party entitled to receive the same and such certificate shall be conclusive evidence for all purposes whatever as well of the amount of the demand as of the title of the party to recover the amount from the party therein stated to be liable to the payment thereof.

Costs and expenses how recovered.

LXXVII. The President or Speaker of the Council or Assembly as the case may require shall by order under his hand direct the payment of the said sum of One hundred pounds deposited according to the provisions hereinbefore contained or a sufficient portion thereof to any party or parties who by such certificate shall appear to be entitled to recover costs and expenses against the person or any of the persons by whom such deposit was made and the party entitled to any such costs and expenses under such certificate may recover the same or so much thereof as shall not be paid out of any such deposit from the party liable to pay the same and if the party liable to pay such costs and expenses shall not upon demand being made within Seven days thereafter pay the same, the said President or Speaker shall by warrant under his hand directed to the Sheriff of Victoria command the said Sheriff to levy for the amount named in such warrant upon the lands and tenements goods and chattels of the party liable to pay the same and thereupon the said Sheriff shall forthwith in the same manner as in executing a levy under a writ of *fieri facias* levy for the said amount and when it shall be recovered pay over the same to the party entitled thereto and any person from whom the amount of such costs and expenses shall have been received or who shall have paid the same on demand thereof shall be entitled to recover in any court of competent jurisdiction from the other persons if such there be who are liable to the payment of the same a proportionate share thereof according to the number of persons so liable and according to the extent of the liability of each person and every such warrant shall be returned to the said President or Speaker as the case may be.

Recovery of monies and penalties.

LXXVIII. Any order or award for the payment of any sum of money and any fine forfeiture or penalty inflicted under the authority of this Act may unless otherwise provided for be recovered in a summary way before any Two or more Justices of the Peace and in any proceedings or prosecutions for any such sum proof of the handwriting of the officer or person making any such order or award to any document being or purporting to be such order or award shall be *primâ facie* evidence that such order or award was made.

Summary proceedings.

LXXIX. All such proceedings as aforesaid shall be had and taken in a summary way and no such proceedings shall be removed by *certiorari* into the Supreme Court of the Colony of Victoria and the amount of all fines and penalties shall go and be distributed One-half thereof to the informer or person prosecuting for the same and the other half to Her Majesty Her Heirs and Successors for the public uses of Victoria and in support of the Government thereof And all monies received by any person under any of the provisions of this Act and not hereby specially appropriated shall be paid by the person receiving the same to Her Majesty Her Heirs and Successors for the public uses of Victoria and in support of the Government thereof.

Costs allowed for vexatious or frivolous complaint.

LXXX. If at the hearing of any matter herein directed to be heard or determined by or before any Justice or Court of Petty Sessions it shall appear to any such Justice or Court of Petty Sessions that the complaint or information was unfounded vexatious or frivolous and whether any such complaint or information shall be dismissed or not it shall be lawful for Justice or Court to

order and award that the complainant or prosecutor shall pay to the defendant such costs together with such further sum not exceeding Twenty pounds for expenses or compensation as to such Justice or Court shall seem just and reasonable and the sum so allowed for costs expenses or compensation shall be specified in any order or conviction and be recoverable in the same manner as any penalty or sum adjudged to be paid.

11 & 12 Vic. c. 42, s. 18.

Appeal allowed where fine exceeds Ten pounds.

LXXXI. Any person ordered or adjudged to forfeit or pay any fine penalty or forfeiture exceeding Ten pounds who shall feel himself aggrieved by the judgment of the Justice or Justices adjudicating or before whom he was convicted may appeal from any such judgment or conviction to the next Court of General Sessions of the Peace which shall be held nearest to the place where such judgment or conviction shall have been given or made and the execution of every judgment or conviction so appealed from shall be suspended in case such person shall with Two or more sufficient sureties immediately before such Justice or Justices enter into a bond or recognizance to Her Majesty Her Heirs and Successors in the penal sum of double the amount of such fine penalty or forfeiture which bond or recognizance respectively such justice or justices are hereby authorised and required to take and such bond or recognizance shall be conditioned to prosecute such appeal with effect and to be forthcoming to abide the determination of the said Court of General Sessions and to pay such costs as the said Court shall award and such Court of General Sessions is hereby authorized and required to hear and determine the matter of any such appeal and the decision of such Court shall be final between the parties to all intents and purposes.

Court may order plaintiff to give security for costs in any action under this Act.

LXXXII. In any action to recover any penalty under this Act it shall be lawful to the Court in which such action shall be brought or any Judge thereof if they or he shall think fit to order that the plaintiff in such action shall give security for costs or that all proceedings shall be stayed.

Repeal of Acts.

14 Vic. No. 47.

16 Vic. No. 29.

LXXXIII. An Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of New South Wales passed in the fourteenth year of the reign of Her present Majesty Queen VICTORIA being "The Victoria Electoral Act of 1851" also an Act of the Lieutenant-Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria passed in the sixteenth year of the reign of Her present Majesty and intituled "An Act to alter 'The Victoria Electoral Act of 1851' and to increase the Number of Members of the Legislative Council of the Colony of Victoria" and also an Act of the Lieutenant-Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria passed in the eighteenth year of the reign of Her present Majesty intituled "An Act to further alter 'The Victoria Electoral Act of 1851' and to increase the Number of Members of the Legislative Council of Victoria" shall be respectively repealed except as to any act done and proceedings incident to any election petition presented under the said recited Acts all which Acts and proceedings shall have effect and shall save as herein specially provided be continued and completed as if this Act had not been passed Provided also that such Acts shall during the continuance of the now existing Legislature and until the same be lawfully dissolved but no longer remain and be in full force and effect as far as relates to the existing Legislature and all elections petitions matters and things connected therewith and which shall be respectively conducted and carried on as if this Act had not been passed.

Short Title.

LXXXIV. In citing or referring to this Act in any Act instrument document or proceeding or for any purpose whatsoever it shall be sufficient to use the expression "The Electoral Act of 1856."

SCHEDULES to which the foregoing ACT refers.

SCHEDULE (A.)

No. 1.

NOTICE to be given by the Collectors in the Year 1856.

I hereby give notice that all persons entitled to vote in the election of members for the province or district [*as the case may be*] of [*insert name of province or district*] in respect of any freehold or leasehold property or in respect of any other qualification conferring the right to vote in this division of such province [*or* district *as the case may be*] are hereby requested to send addressed to me as soon as they conveniently can and also to leave in readiness for me at their place of abode in case I call in their absence a paper writing setting forth their name and surname place of abode and the particulars of their qualification according to the form of notice of claim herewith or to the like purport.

(signed) A. B.

Collector of [*insert area of collection by name or sufficient description.*]
[*State address of Collector in clear and distinct terms.*]

No. 2.

NOTICE to be given by the Collectors in the Year 1857, and in succeeding Years.

I hereby give notice that all persons entitled to vote in the election of members for the province or district [*as the case may be*] of [*insert name of province or district*] in respect of freehold or leasehold property or in respect of any other qualification conferring the right to vote in this division of such province [*or* district *as the case may be*] are hereby requested to send addressed to me as soon as they conveniently can and also to leave in readiness for me at their place of abode in case I call in their absence a paper writing setting forth their name and surname place of abode and the particulars of their qualification according to the form of notice of claim herewith or to the like purport. Persons already on the roll who have changed their residence or whose qualification has been altered since the last registration are particularly requested to send in their claims.

(signed) A. B.

Collector of [*insert area of collection by name or sufficient description.*]
[*State address of Collector in clear and distinct terms.*]

No. 3.

NOTICE OF CLAIM.

To the Collector of

I hereby give you notice that I claim to have my name inserted in the electoral list of in virtue of the freehold [*or* leasehold] property which I possess at [*or as the case may be in virtue of my occupation of a house at or of my salary of one hundred pounds a year received from C. D. at or of my miner's right taken out at or of my practising as a solicitor at or such qualification as the claimant may possess.*]

Dated at this day of in the year 18

(signed) CHAS. DICKENS.

[*Claimant to state here his residence and occupation or description.*]

N.B.—*If this notice be sent in consequence of the claimant's name having been omitted from the list it should be addressed to the Registrar of the province or district or division of the province or district* [*as the case may be*] *in which the claimant desires to be registered.*

Schedule (B.)

SCHEDULE (B.)

To the Collector of [*or* the Registrar of
or to William Sykes *name of person objected to.*]

I hereby give you notice that I object to the name of William Sykes of [*describe person objected to as he is described in the electoral list*] being retained on the electoral list of the province [district *or* division] of on the following grounds [*here specify the grounds of objections.*]

(signed) CHAS. DICKENS.

[*Objector to state here his qualification and residence.*]

N.B.—*A notice of objection must be sent to the person objected to as well as to the Collector or Registrar.*

Schedule (C.)

SCHEDULE (C.)

Province of
To wit [*or* district *&c. as the case may be.*]
Division of

List of persons claiming or supposed to be entitled to vote in the election of a member of the province [*or* district *as the case may be.*]

Margin for entering Registrar's Objections.	Name and Surname of the Claimant.	Place of Abode and Occupation or Description.	Nature of Qualification.	Street Lane or other Place in this Province [*or* District *or* Division *of this* Province *or* District] Number of House (if any) where the Property is situate or name of the Property and occupying Tenant (if any) or as full a description of the Property as can be given. [*Where Qualification consists of a Salary state Name of Employer his Residence and the Amount of Salary. Where Qualification is unconnected with Property, state so.*]

(signed) A. B.
Registrar of

Schedule (D.)

SCHEDULE (D.)

LIST of Persons objected to, to be published by the Registrars.

The following persons have been objected to as not being entitled to have their names retained in the list of electors for the province [*or* district] of

Name and Surname of each Person objected to.	Place of Abode.	Nature of supposed Qualification.	Ground of Objection.	Street Lane or other Place in this Province [*or* District *or* Division *of* Province *or* District] Number of House (if any) where the Property is situate or Name of the Property and occupying Tenant (if any) or as full a Description of the Property as can be given. [*Where Qualification consists of a Salary state Name of Employer his Residence and the Amount of Salary. Where Qualification is unconnected with Property, state so.*]

(signed) A. B.
Registrar of

SCHEDULE (E.) Schedule (E.)

FORM of Oath to be taken by each Member of Election Committee.

I A B do swear well and truly to try and determine the matters of any petition and other questions referred to this committee and a true judgment to give according to the evidence and truly and faithfully to perform the duties appertaining to a member of the said committee to the best of my judgment and ability without fear or favour.

So help me GOD.

SCHEDULE (F.) Schedule (F.)

BALLOT PAPER.

FORM.

Province (*or* district) of [*here insert name of province or district*].

Candidates names (*here arranged alphabetically*)—

William Brown,
Henry Smith,
Charles Stevens,
John Thompson.

DIRECTIONS.

The voter is to strike out the name or names of the candidate or candidates for whom he does not intend to vote by drawing a line through the same with a pen.

He must be careful not to leave uncancelled more names than are capable of being returned for the province or district in which he votes namely (*here insert number*) names otherwise his ballot paper will be invalid.

If he cannot read he may require the returning officer or deputy returning officer to strike out for him such name or names as he may designate.

The ballot paper so marked by or for the voter is to be dropped by him into the ballot box.

The voter is not to be permitted to take his ballot paper out of the ballot room or polling booth.

I HEREBY certify, that the above print on vellum is the Bill to which the Legislative Council of Victoria has agreed, and that the same passed the Legislative Council on the 13th day of March 1856.

(signed) *J. Palmer*, Speaker.

(signed) *John Barber*,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

In the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, I assent to this Act.

(signed) *Edward Macarthur*,
Major-General.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
19 March 1856.

VICTORIA (AUSTRALIA) ELECTORAL LAW.

COPY of the ELECTORAL LAW of the Colony of *Victoria* (*Australia*), passed by the Colonial Legislature.

(*Mr. Henry Berkeley.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
21 *March* 1857.

Under 4 *oz.*

EMIGRATION (AUSTRALIA).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 3 March 1857;—*for*,

"RETURNS, showing the AMOUNT of MONEY at the disposal of the EMIGRATION COMMISSIONERS, for Emigration to the *Australian* Colonies, in each of the last Ten Years, the Amount Expended, and the Number of Emigrants sent out in each Year, and the Average Cost per Statute Adult:"

"Of the NUMBER of APPLICATIONS for PASSAGES now in the Commission Office, the Amount of Unappropriated Balance in their Hands, and the probable Number of Statute Adults for whom that Balance will provide:"

"Of the NUMBER of PERSONS connected with the BUILDING TRADES sent out during the last Six Months, and the Proportion which they bear to other Emigrants during the same Period:"

"And, of the REGULATIONS and CONDITIONS under which Passages are granted."

Colonial Office,
13 March 1857.

H. LABOUCHERE.

(*Viscount Goderich.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
13 *March* 1857.

No. 1.

RETURN, showing the Amount of Money at the disposal of the Emigration Commissioners, for Emigration to the *Australian* Colonies, in each of the last Ten Years, the Amount Expended, and the Number of Emigrants sent out in each Year, and the Average Cost per Statute Adult.

YEAR.	RECEIPTS. 1. From Colonial Revenue (including Deposits for Land in England).	2. From Emigrants, by Payment in England, or by Remittance from their Friends in the Colony.	3. From all other Sources.	4. TOTAL RECEIPTS in each Year.	5. TOTAL PAYMENTS in each Year.	6. BALANCE in hand at the Close of each Year, subject to Outstanding Liabilities.	7. Number of Emigrants (Souls) sent out in each Year.	8. AVERAGE COST per Statute Adult in each Year (C.)
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.		£. s. d.
1847	42,500	3,700	13,800	60,000	29,700	30,300	3,981	14 18 –
1848	172,500	28,800	3,100	204,400	117,200	117,500	17,752	14 10 1
1849	102,000	15,900	10,100	128,000	229,200	16,300	19,428	14 14 6
1850	134,300	14,900	29,100	178,300	149,400	45,200	6,830	12 13 8
1851	249,000	22,100	9,800	280,900	121,700	204,400	11,693	13 12 11
1852	390,500	22,200	19,800	432,500	333,300	303,600	34,095	16 16 10
1853	473,500	51,500	30,000	555,000	514,700	343,900	27,723	20 18 7
1854	775,500	30,500	15,100	821,100	664,900(A.)	500,100	41,065	21 17 4
1855	309,800	96,600	20,000	426,400	619,500	307,000	28,016	17 18 6
1856	172,800	28,700	13,000	214,500	330,100(B.)	191,400	20,653	15 19 10
	2,822,400	314,900	163,800	3,301,100	3,109,700	- - -	211,236	

(A.) Including 10,000 *l.* paid on account of the Government of New South Wales to the Female Colonization Society.

(B.) Including 40,000 *l.* paid over to the Agent for the colony of Victoria.

(C.) The Averages in this Column comprise the whole of the Passage-money, and all other Expenses whatever, usually defrayed in England, the Cost of selecting Agency and of the Commissioners' Office being included. The only Charges not included are Gratuities to Surgeons and officers, Demurrages and other incidental Expenses generally defrayed in the Colonies, which may amount on an average to from 1 *l.* 10 *s.* to 2 *l.* per Adult. But, as the second Moieties of Passage-money are not payable till the receipt in this country of certificates of the arrival of the ships, the amount stated in the 5th Column as expended in any one year will not represent the expense of the Emigrants sent out in that year.

Government Emigration Board,
8, Park-street, Westminster,
12 March 1857.

S. Walcott,
Secretary.

Nos. II. and III.

RETURN, showing (1.), the NUMBER of STATUTE ADULTS whose Applications for Passages were in the Commissioners' Office on the 3d March 1857 (exclusive of those for whom Passages have been provided by the EMIGRATION COMMISSIONERS, in Ships to sail previous to the 13th April next); (2.), the AMOUNT of UNAPPROPRIATED BALANCE in the Commissioners' hands on the 3d March 1857; (3.), the probable NUMBER of STATUTE ADULTS for whom that Balance will provide Passages; (4.), the NUMBER of PERSONS connected with the Building Trades sent out during the last Six Months, and the Proportion they bear to other Emigrants during the same period.

	STATUTE ADULTS.
1st. APPLICATIONS in COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE, as above:	
Forms in Office, 1st March	5,882
Received - 2d „	232
Ditto - 3d „	143
Applications approved, but for which Deposits have not yet been paid	939
	7,196
Persons nominated in the Colonies for Passages, under the Remittance and Nominee Regulations	1,254
Total Number of Statute Adults for whom, if approved, Passages would have to be provided by the Commissioners after 13th April 1857	8,450
	£.
2d. Unappropriated Balance in the Commissioners' hands on 3d March 1857 (including 80,000 *l.* expected, but not yet received)	123,000
3d. Probable Number of Statute Adults for whom that Balance will provide Passages (at say 16 *l.* per Adult)	7,687
4th. Total Number of Persons connected with the Building Trades, who, during the last Six Months, have been provided with Passages, including their Wives, and Children under 14 years of age	1,706*
Other Emigrants, including Wives, and Children under 14 years of age	9,145
Proportion which Persons connected with Building Trades bear to other Emigrants	18·65 per Cent.

* *N. B.*—All these persons have proceeded to New South Wales and Victoria, as the Government Authorities in South Australia have desired that only Agricultural Labourers, Farm Servants, Shepherds and Miners should be sent to that Colony.

Government Emigration Board,
8, Park-street, Westminster, 12 March 1857.

S. Walcott,
Secretary.

No. IV.

RETURN, showing the Regulations and Conditions under which Passages are granted to *Australia* by the Emigration Commissioners.

No. 42. (Single Women.)

[*N. B.*—This Half Sheet to be kept by the Applicant.]

Government Emigration Commission, 8, Park-street, Westminster.

Regulations for the Selection of Female Servants for Passages to Australia.

Female Domestic Servants, who really understand their business, are in great demand in Australia, and are sure to obtain immediate employment at good Wages. To all such, the Emigration Commissioners will grant Passages on the following Conditions:—

Qualifications.

1. The candidates must not be under 18, nor over 35 years of age. They must be of unexceptionable character; in good health, and free from bodily and mental defects. They must have lived in service as cooks, house-maids, nursery-maids, or laundry-maids, or as servants of all work; and they must produce satisfactory certificates and testimonials on these points.

Application and Approval.

* *See* page 6.

2. The first step is to make application to the Commissioners, by filling up and sending in the Form* on the next page. The candidates will then be informed whether or not a passage can be granted. If it can, they will receive a printed paper called an "Approval Circular," requiring the payment of 10 *s.*, and pointing out the time and manner of payment. After the money is paid, they will receive an Embarkation Order (which is not transferable), naming the ship in which they are to sail, and the time and place of joining her.

Outfit, &c.

3. The emigrants must find their own clothing, which will be inspected at the port by an officer of the Commissioners. The smallest quantity which will be passed for each person, is:—six shifts; two warm and strong flannel petticoats; six pairs stockings; two pairs strong shoes; two strong gowns, one of which must be warm; three sheets; four towels; one comb and one hair brush; and 2 lbs. of marine soap. If any difficulty is experienced in procuring good marine soap where the applicants reside, there will be ample opportunity for purchasing it after their arrival at the depôt. The larger the stock of clothing the better for health and comfort during the voyage, which usually lasts about four months; and as the emigrants have always to pass through very hot and very cold weather, they should be prepared for both. An extra supply of flannel is strongly recommended.

4. The whole quantity of baggage for each adult must not measure more than 20 cubic or solid feet, nor exceed half a ton in weight. It must be closely packed in one or more strong boxes or cases; but no box must exceed in size 15 cubic feet. Large packages and extra baggage, if taken at all, must be paid for. Mattresses and feather beds will in no case be taken.

Caution.

5. Candidates must not reckon upon passages, or make any preparation for departure, unless they receive the "Approval Circular."

6. Any false signatures, mis-statements, or omission to state a material fact in the candidates' papers, or any attempt at deception whatever, or evasion of the Commissioners' rules, will subject candidates to a forfeiture of the money paid, and all claim on the Commissioners; and will, moreover, render the offenders liable to a heavy penalty under the Passengers' Act.

7. Failure to attend at the time and place of embarkation, without having previously given to the Commissioners timely notice, and a satisfactory reason; or any insubordination or misconduct in the Commissioners' depôts, or on board ship before sailing; or refusal to proceed in the ship, will subject candidates to a forfeiture of the money paid, the loss of their passage, and of all claims upon the Commissioners.

8. All applications should be addressed, post-paid, to S. Walcott, Esq., No. 8, Park-street, Westminster, S. W.

By Order of the Board,

Stephen Walcott,
Secretary.

INFORMATION.

1. The Commissioners engage none but first-class vessels, which are despatched from Southampton, Plymouth, and Birkenhead. At these ports the Commissioners have depôts fitted expressly for the reception of emigrants, who are lodged and fed, free of charge, from the day named in their Embarkation Order until they are embarked. They can travel to the depôt by any of the ordinary trains on the Great Western and South Western lines of railway for 1 *d.* per mile.

2. The ships are fitted with a proper regard to the health and comfort of the emigrants, as well as for the preservation of good order amongst them. The single men occupy the fore-part of the ship; next to them are placed the married couples and their young children, in the middle of the vessel; and the single women have a distinct compartment set apart for them, in the after-part of the ship.

3. The Commissioners appoint a surgeon-superintendent for the protection and medical charge of the emigrants. The single women are placed under the care of a matron; and when practicable, a schoolmaster is appointed, for the benefit of adults as well as of children.

4. The emigrants are victualled on board, in messes of six or eight each. Each single woman receives weekly—3 ¼ lbs. of meat, 8 oz. of suet, 4 oz. of butter, 2 ½ lbs. of biscuit, 1 lb. of oatmeal, ½ lb. of rice, 2 lbs. of potatoes or ½ lb. of preserved ditto, peas and other vegetables, 6 oz. of raisins, 1 oz. of tea and 2 oz. of coffee, ¾ lb. of sugar and ½ lb. of treacle, with salt, pepper, and pickles, and 3 quarts of water daily. There is also an abundant supply of medical comforts, such as arrowroot, wine, preserved milk, &c. for use in case of sickness. Every ship carries a baker, and a large oven for baking bread, pies, &c.; and the emigrants, besides their other allowances, receive an issue of fresh bread three times a week, made from a portion of their flour.

5. The Commissioners supply, free of charge, provisions, medical attendance, and cooking utensils at their depôts and on board the ship; also new mattresses, bolsters, blankets and counterpanes, canvass bags to contain linen, &c., knives and forks, spoons, metal plates, and drinking mugs, which articles are given, at the end of the voyage, to the emigrants who have behaved well.

6. The Commissioners also supply bags containing stuffs, and sewing and knitting materials, which are placed in charge of the matron, to be given out for the benefit and recreative employment of the single women during the voyage.

7. On reaching the colony the single women are received into the Government depôts, and lodged and maintained there, free of expense, for a few days, till they can obtain employment. They are not bound in any way to the Government, or required to make any payment in the colony for their passages, but are at perfect liberty to choose their own employers, and to make their own bargains for wages; but no employer is admitted into the depôt who is not known to be of good character, or who does not bring a certificate of respectability from a clergyman or magistrate.

8. New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria, are three separate colonies in Australia, the capitals of which are several hundred miles apart. Sydney is the capital of New South Wales. Moreton Bay, in the same colony, is about 500 miles north of Sydney, with steam communication between the two places. Adelaide is the capital of South Australia; Melbourne is the capital of Victoria. Geelong, near to Melbourne, is the next principal town, and Portland and Belfast are also thriving towns in Victoria, about 300 miles to the west of Melbourne.

9. If an applicant does not specify any particular colony in Australia, the Commissioners will assume that she has no choice, and will send her by the earliest opportunity to that colony for which she appears most suitable. If the colony be named, but no particular port specified, the Commissioners will select the port of disembarkation in that colony. As Melbourne and Geelong are situated in the same land-locked bay, and are only about 45 miles apart, with steam communication daily between them, at the cost of a few shillings, the Commissioners treat them as practically the same port.

FORM of APPLICATION for SINGLE WOMEN.

Issued gratis and not transferable.

No. 42.

Available for one Month only.

Issued 1857.

Here state to what Colony in Australia Applicant wishes to go. [*N.B. If "Australia" only is named, the Commissioners will select the Colony they may think most advisable.*]

(This Form, when filled up, is to be separated from the other page, and returned as a letter, pre-paid, directed to "S. Walcott, Esq., Park-street, Westminster," or to the Commissioners' agent, if received from one. Any one selling this paper is liable to a penalty of 50 *l.*)

(There is a distinct Form for Single Men and Families.)

NAME		Age at last Birth-day.	Day and Year of Birth.	Present Occupation.	How long so employed.	Former Occupation.	How long so employed.	Any Mental or Bodily Defect must be here stated, and if the Applicant has been Vaccinated or has had the Small Pox.
Christian	Surname							

1. Place of Residence. Post Town County
2. Have you ever been married; if so, when did your husband die, and how many of your children are living - - - - - - - - -
3. Name, address, and occupation of your present or last employer, and the time you served in that situation - - - - - - - -
4. Are you now out of place; if so, state for how long, and how you have been supporting yourself -
5. Have you been in the receipt of parish relief; and if so, for how long - - - - - -
6. Have you been an inmate of any charitable or other institution; if so, name it, and state for how long - - - - - - - -
7. Have you been out before to any colony; if so, to which, and by what means did you go and return, and at whose expense - - - - -
8. Name and address of the minister of the parish in which you reside - - - - - - -

I do hereby declare that all the above statements are true; that I have carefully read, or have heard read, the Commissioners' regulations contained in the paper attached to this Form, and that in applying for a passage to the colony, I am truly acting in accordance with the spirit of those regulations, which I understand to be this: That the privilege of a passage, if granted, will be allowed me on the faith that I really have been and am a domestic servant, as above described; that I am of good character; and that I go to the colony intending to take service there for wages in the calling above mentioned. I also engage to conform to the directions of the Commissioners and their officers, and to such regulations as may be established for the good government and welfare of all in the depôt and during the voyage; and I further pledge myself not to leave the ship until she reaches her destination. And I further declare, that I have neither paid, nor agreed to pay, for the purpose of obtaining a passage, any fee or gratuity whatever, to or for the use of the party through whom this application is made, or any one else.

Signature of Applicant.

This margin must not be cut away.

The Sale of this Paper subjects the Party offending to a Penalty not exceeding 50 *l.*, nor less than 2 *l.*

Form of Application for Single Women—*continued.*

It is particularly requested that no one will sign these Certificates unless convinced of the truth of their statements.

CERTIFICATE to be signed by two respectable Householders.

(*N.B.*—This is not to be signed by Publicans or Dealers in Beer or Spirits.)

WE certify that the above Form of Application was duly filled up before our signatures were attached; that we have perused the statements therein contained, and believe them to be strictly true; that we are well acquainted with , know her to be of the calling above stated, and believe her to be honest, sober, industrious, and of general good character, and that she is not deformed, deaf, blind, lame, or idiotic, or likely to become a burthen to the Colony.

Signature.	Residence.	Post Town.
Signature.	Residence.	Post Town.

CERTIFICATE of a Physician or Surgeon.

I CERTIFY that I have examined the above-named applicant, and that she is not apparently mutilated nor deformed in person, nor in my opinion afflicted with any disease calculated to shorten life, or to impair physical or mental energy, and that she appears to be of the age set against her name in the column above. I certify also that she has had the small pox, or has been vaccinated, and is entirely free from every disease usually considered infectious or contagious.

Signature.	Residence.

CERTIFICATE of the Magistrate or Clergyman of the Parish in which the Applicant resides.

(*N.B.*—Where the Applicant resides in a large Town, and the Clergyman or Magistrate may therefore be unable to give this Certificate, the Commissioners will, on that fact being here stated, make special inquiries in the case.)

I CERTIFY that I have examined the foregoing statements, and have no reason to doubt their truth. I further certify, to the best of my belief, that the above Certificates are authentic, and that the persons whose signatures are affixed to them are worthy of credit.

Signature of the Magistrates.	Residence.
Signature of the Clergymen.	Residence.
Signature of the Roman Catholic Priest.	Residence.

DECLARATION of Commissioners' Selecting Agent, where one is employed.

I DO hereby declare that I have carefully inquired as to the validity of the above statements, and that I am perfectly satisfied of their correctness; also that I have made all other inquiries and examinations named in my instructions, and that I believe the above candidate to be in all respects a good domestic servant. And I further declare, that neither I nor any sub-agent, or other person acting under my authority, have received, or agreed to receive, from or in respect of the emigrant above described, any fee or gratuity whatever, on account of her obtaining a passage through my agency.

Agent for

CAUTIONS.

1. No payment whatever should be made to any person in respect of applications for passages, or for any papers issued by the Commissioners. The Agents of the Board have no authority to receive money, or to promise passages.

2. The filling up of this Form confers no claim to a passage. It is advisable that a Certificate of Character from your last employer should be sent in with this Form.

3. If this paper contains any false statements or false signatures, the party will not only forfeit her deposit and all claim to a passage, but also render herself liable, under the Passengers' Act, to a penalty not exceeding 50*l.*

4. If, upon arrival at the depôt, applicants are found to have any infectious disorder, or any bodily or mental defect likely to impair their usefulness as domestic servants, or not to have truly stated their case, they will not be embarked, nor maintained at the Commissioners' expense.

5. This paper must be kept clean, and filled up exactly according to the directions given above. No erasures or mutilations must be made.

By Order of the Board,

Government Emigration Commission,
8, Park Street, Westminster, S. W.

Stephen Walcott, Secretary.

[*N.B.*—This Half Sheet to be kept by the Applicant.]

No. 44.

GOVERNMENT EMIGRATION BOARD, 8, Park-street, Westminster, S.W.

REGULATIONS and CONDITIONS under which the Emigration Commissioners grant Passages to *Australia*, at the Expense of the Colonial Funds.

QUALIFICATIONS.

1. *Eligible Candidates.*—The candidates must be in the habit of working for wages at one of the callings mentioned in Article 4, and must be going out with the intention of working for hire in that calling. They must be sober, industrious, of good moral character, in good health, free from all mental and bodily defects, and capable of labour, and must have been vaccinated or had the small-pox.

2. *Ineligible Candidates*;—to whom passages cannot be granted—Persons who have not arranged with their creditors. Persons in business, or intending to set up in business in the colony for themselves, to buy land, or to resort to the gold fields. Persons in the habitual receipt of parish relief. Families which have more than two children under 7, or than 3 under 10 years of age. Widowers and widows with young children. Parents without all their children under 18. Children under 18 without their parents. Husbands without their wives. Wives without their husbands. Single women over 35. Single women who have had illegitimate children. Single men over 40; and, for Victoria, single men of any age, unless they accompany their parents, and at least an equal number of sisters over 12.

APPLICATION AND APPROVAL.

3. The first step is to make application to the Commissioners, by correctly filling up and sending in the form on the next page.* If the applicants are married the certificate of their marriage must be sent at the same time, and the Board will afterwards state what other certificates (if any) are required in support of the application. The candidates will then be informed whether or not a passage can be granted. If it can, they will receive a printed paper called an "Approval Circular," pointing out the time and manner of payment. After the money is paid, they will receive an Embarkation Order (which is not transferable), naming the ship in which they are to sail, and the time and place of joining her.

* *See* page 11.

PAYMENTS TOWARDS PASSAGES.

4. The following are payments required from—

	£.	s.	d.
I. Married agricultural labourers, shepherds, herdsmen, and (for South Australia) copper miners, under 45 years of age	1	–	–
II. Forty-five, and under 50 years of age	5	–	–
III. Fifty, and under 60 years of age	11	–	–
IV. Single men, of any of the above classes, not exceeding 40 years of age (For Victoria none can be taken except accompanying their parents, with at least an equal number of sisters over 12.)	1	–	–
V. Single female domestic servants, not exceeding 35 years of age	–	10	–
VI. Married country mechanics (when they can be taken), such as masons, bricklayers, blacksmiths and farriers, wheelwrights, sawyers and carpenters, also gardeners, if under 45 years of age	5	–	–
VII. Forty-five, and under 50	8	–	–
VIII. Fifty, and above	15	–	–
IX. Single men of Class VI., under 40 years of age, and subject to the condition in Article IV.	5	–	–

No payments are required for wives, or for children under 14 years of age accompanying their parents, but emigrants must pay their own way to the port of embarkation. They can, however, travel to the port by any of the ordinary trains on the Great Western or South Western lines of Railway, for 1 *d.* per mile, children between one and 14 years of age paying half fare.

OUTFIT,

Outfit, &c.

5. Candidates must find their own outfit, which will be inspected before embarkation by an officer of the Commissioners. The smallest quantity that will be allowed is, for each male over 12, six shirts, six pairs of stockings, two warm flannel shirts, two pairs of new shoes or boots, two complete suits of strong exterior clothing, four towels, and 2 lbs. marine soap; and for each female over 12, six shifts, two flannel petticoats, six pairs of stockings, two pairs of strong boots or shoes, two strong gowns (one of which must be made of a warm material), four towels, three sheets for each berth occupied on board ship, and 2 lbs. of marine soap.

N.B.—If any difficulty is experienced in procuring good marine soap where the applicants reside, there will be ample opportunity for purchasing it after their arrival at the depôt.

Two or three coloured shirts for men, and an extra supply of flannel for women and children are very desirable.

6. The quantity of baggage for each person over 12 must not exceed 20 cubic or solid feet, or half a ton in weight. It must be closely packed in one or more strong boxes or cases not exceeding 15 cubic feet each. Larger packages and extra baggage, if taken at all, must be paid for. Mattresses and feather beds, fire-arms, and offensive weapons, wines, spirits, beer, gunpowder, percussion caps, lucifer matches, and any dangerous or noxious articles cannot be taken by emigrants.

Cautions.

7. Candidates must not reckon upon passages, or make any preparation for departure, unless they receive the Commissioners' "Approval Circular." Agents have no authority to receive money for the Board. Persons cannot be received into the Commissioners' depôt, or on board ship, without an embarkation order duly signed, or unless they are in a fit state of health for the voyage.

8. Any false signatures, mis-statements, or omission to state a material fact in the candidates' papers, or any attempt at deception whatever, or evasion of the Commissioners' Regulations, will subject candidates to a forfeiture of the money paid, and of all claim on the Commissioners; and, in the case of false signatures, will, moreover, render the offender liable to a heavy penalty under the Passengers' Act.

9. Failure to attend at the time and place of embarkation, without having previously given to the Commissioners timely notice, and a satisfactory reason, or any insubordination or misconduct in the Commissioners' depôts, or on board ship before sailing, or refusal to proceed in the ship, will subject candidates to the loss of their passage, and to a forfeiture of the money paid, and of all claims upon the Commissioners.

10. All applications should be addressed, post-paid, to S. Walcott, Esq., No. 8, Park-street, Westminster, S. W.

By Order of the Board,

Stephen Walcott,
Secretary.

Notice.

1. The funds for carrying on emigration to the Australian colonies are supplied from colonial revenues. In the administration of these funds the Commissioners act as trustees for the colonies, and are therefore bound to look exclusively to colonial interests. It is accordingly their duty to consider only how the largest number of emigrants most suited to the wants of the colonies, may be sent out—not to accept candidates merely because they are in distress, or unable to procure employment in this country.

2. The Commissioners engage none but first class vessels, which are despatched from Southampton, Plymouth and Birkenhead. At these ports the Commissioners have depôts fitted expressly for the reception of emigrants, who are lodged and fed, free of charge, from the day named in their embarkation order, until they are embarked.

3. The ships are fitted with a proper regard for the health and comfort of the emigrants, as well as for the preservation of good order amongst them. The single men occupy the fore-part of the ship; next to them are placed the married couples and their young children, in the middle of the vessel; and the single women have a distinct compartment set apart for them, in the after-part of the ship.

4. The Commissioners appoint a surgeon-superintendent for the protection and medical charge of the emigrants. The single women are placed under the care of a matron; and, when practicable, a schoolmaster is appointed, for the benefit of adults as well as of children.

5. The emigrants are victualled on board, in messes of six or eight each. Each person over 12 years of age receives weekly 3 ½ lbs. of meat, 8 oz. of suet, 4 oz. of butter, 2 ½ lbs. of biscuit, 3 ½ lbs. of flour, 1 lb. of oatmeal, ½ lb. of rice, 2 lbs. of potatoes, or ½ lb. of preserved ditto, peas and other vegetables, 6 oz. of raisins, 1 oz. of tea, and 2 oz. of coffee, ¾ lb. of sugar, and ½ lb. of treacle, with salt, pepper and pickles, and three quarts of water daily. Children between one and 12 years of age receive half rations, and for those under one year old there is a special dietary scale. There is also an abundant supply of medical comforts, such as arrowroot, wine, preserved milk, &c., for use in case of sickness. Every ship carries a baker, and a large oven for baking bread, pies, &c.; and the emigrants receive bread three times a week, made from a portion of their flour.

6. The Commissioners supply, free of charge, provisions, medical attendance, and cooking utensils, at their depôts, and on board the ship. Also new mattresses, bolsters, blankets and counterpanes, canvas bags to contain linen, &c., knives and forks, spoons, metal plates and drinking mugs, which articles are given, at the end of the voyage, to the emigrants, if they have behaved well.

7. The Commissioners also supply bags containing stuffs, and sewing and knitting materials, which are placed in charge of the matron, to be given out for the benefit and recreative employment of the women during the voyage.

8. With a view to the promotion of cleanliness and health during the voyage, the hair of all children under 12 years of age must be cut close before embarkation. If this has not been done before arrival at the depôt, it will be done there.

9. On reaching the colony, none of the emigrants are bound in any way to the Government, or required to make any payment in return for their passages, but all persons are at perfect liberty to choose their own employers, and to make their own bargains for wages. The single women are received into the Government depôts, and lodged and maintained there, free of expense, for a few days, till they can obtain employment.

10. New South Wales, South Australia, and Victoria, are three separate colonies in Australia, the capitals of which are several hundred miles apart. Sydney is the capital of New South Wales. Moreton Bay, in the same colony, is about 500 miles north of Sydney, with steam communication between the two places. Adelaide is the capital of South Australia. Melbourne is the capital of Victoria. Geelong, near to Melbourne, is the next principal town, and Portland and Belfast are also thriving towns in Victoria, about 300 miles to the west of Melbourne. Port Albert is about 250 miles eastward of Melbourne.

11. If an applicant does not specify any particular colony in Australia, the Commissioners will assume that he has no choice, and will send him by the earliest opportunity to that colony for which he appears most suitable. If the colony be named, but no particular port specified, the Commissioners will select the port of disembarkation in that colony. As Melbourne and Geelong are situated in the same land-locked bay, and are only about 45 miles apart, with steam communication daily between them, at the cost of a few shillings, the Commissioners treat them practically as the same port.

FORM OF APPLICATION.

Issued gratis, and not transferable.

No. 44.

Available for one month only.

Issued 1857.

Here state to what colony in Australia applicant wishes to go. [*If "Australia" only is named, the Commissioners will select the colony for which applicant seems best suited.*]

(This Form when filled up is to be separated from the other page, and returned as a letter, pre-paid, directed to "S. Walcott, Esq., Park Street, Westminster," or to the Commissioners' Agent, if received from one.—Any one selling this Paper is liable to a penalty of 50 *l.*)

(This Form will do for a man, his wife, and children under 14, or for a single man. There is a distinct Form for single women.

The Names of the Applicants, and of all their Children under 14, must be inserted in this Column. Separate Forms are required for Children over 14, and should be securely attached to the Form of their Parents.	Age of each Person at last Birthday.	Day and Year when each Person was Born.	Present Occupation. [Here state the precise kind of Handicraft or Labour at which the Applicant is generally Employed at present.]	How long so Employed.	Former Occupation. [Here state the precise kind of Handicraft or Labour, if any, at which the Applicant has been at other times Employed.]	How long so Employed.	Any mental or bodily Defect must be here stated, and if the Applicant has been Vaccinated or has had the Small Pox.

STATE

1. Place of Residence. Post Town. County.
2. Whether married or single. If married, the certificate must be enclosed. State the number of your children now living - - - - - -
3. Whether any increase of your family is expected within the next four months? If so, when? - -
4. Name, address and occupation of some late employer, and the time you worked for him - - -
5. The rate of wages received, and when you left his employment - - - - - - - -
6. Name and address of the minister of the parish in which you reside - - - - - - -
7. Whether you have been in the receipt of parish relief? And if so, for how long? - - -
8. Whether you have been out before to any colony? If so, to which, and when, and by what means did you go and return, and at whose expense? - -

I do hereby declare, that all the above statements are true; that I have carefully read, or have heard read the Commissioners' regulations contained in the paper attached to this Form, and that in applying for a passage to the colony, I am truly acting in accordance with the spirit of those regulations, which I understand to be this:—That the privilege of a passage, if granted, will be allowed me on the faith that I really belong to the working class, as above described, that I am of good character, and that I go to the colony intending to work there for wages in the calling above-mentioned. I also engage to conform to the directions of the Commissioners and their officers, and to such regulations as may be established for the good government and welfare of all in the depôt and during the voyage; and I further pledge myself not to leave the ship until she reaches her destination. And I further declare, that I have neither paid, nor agreed to pay, for the purpose of obtaining a passage, any fee or gratuity whatever, to or for the use of the party through whom this application is made, or any one else.

Signature of Applicant.

This margin must not be cut away.

The Sale of this Paper subjects the Party offending to a Penalty not exceeding 50 *l.*, nor less than 2 *l.*

Form of Application—*continued.*

It is particularly requested that no one will sign these Certificates unless convinced of the truth of their statements.

Certificate to be signed by Two respectable Householders.

(*N. B.*—This is not to be signed by Publicans or Dealers in Beer or Spirits.)

We certify that the above Form of Application was duly filled up before our signatures were attached; that we have perused the statements therein contained, and believe them to be strictly true; that we are well acquainted with , know him to be of the calling above stated, and believe him to be honest, sober, industrious, and of general good character; and that none of the persons named above are deformed, deaf, blind, lame or idiotic, or likely to become a burthen to the Colony.

Signature.	Residence.	Post Town.
Signature.	Residence.	Post Town.

Certificate of a Physician or Surgeon.

I certify that I have examined the above-named applicant, and his wife and children, and that none of them are seriously mutilated or deformed in person, or in my opinion afflicted with any disease calculated to shorten life, or to impair physical or mental energy, and that each person appears to be of the age set against his or her name in the column above. I certify also that they have all had the small pox or have been vaccinated, and are entirely free from every disease usually considered infectious or contagious; and that all the male adults are capable of labour in their callings.

Signature.	Residence.

Certificate of the Magistrate or Clergyman of the Parish in which the Applicant resides.

(*N. B.*—Where the Applicant resides in a large town, and the Clergyman or Magistrate may therefore be unable to give this Certificate, the Commissioners will, on that fact being here stated, make special inquiries in the case.)

I certify that I have examined the foregoing statements, and have no reason to doubt their truth. I further certify to the best of my belief, that the above Certificates are authentic, and that the persons whose signatures are affixed to them are worthy of credit.

Signature of the Magistrate.	Residence.
Signature of the Clergyman.	Residence.
Signature of the Roman Catholic Priest.	Residence.

Declaration of Commissioners' Selecting Agent, where one is employed.

I do hereby declare, that I have carefully inquired as to the validity of the above statements, and that I am perfectly satisfied of their correctness; also that I have made all other inquiries and examinations named in my instructions, and that I believe the above parties to be in all respects desirable emigrants. And I further declare, that neither I, nor any sub-agent or other person acting under my authority, have received or agreed to receive from or in respect of the emigrants above described, any fee or gratuity whatever, on account of their obtaining a passage through my agency.

Agent for

Cautions.

1. No payment whatever should be made to any person in respect of applications for passages, or for any papers issued by the Commissioners. The agents of the Board have no authority to receive money, or to promise passages.

2. The filling up of this Form confers no claim to a passage. Applicants should not give up their employment, or break up their homes, until they know when they are likely to embark.

3. If this paper contains any false statements, or false signatures, the party will not only forfeit his deposit and all claim to a passage, but also render himself liable, under the "Passengers' Act," to a penalty not exceeding 50*l.*

4. If, upon arrival at the depôt, applicants are found to have any infectious disorder, or any bodily or mental defect likely to impair their usefulness as labourers, or not to have truly stated their case, they will not be embarked, or maintained at the Commissioners' expense.

5. This paper must be kept clean, and filled up exactly according to the directions given above. No erasures or mutilations must be made.

By Order of the Board,

Government Emigration Board,
8, Park-street, Westminster, S. W.

Stephen Walcott, Secretary.

EMIGRATION (AUSTRALIA).

RETURNS, showing the AMOUNT of MONEY at the disposal of the EMIGRATION COMMISSIONERS, for Emigration to the *Australian* Colonies, in each of the last Ten Years, the Amount Expended, and the Number of Emigrants sent out in each Year, and the Average Cost per Statute Adult; &c.

(*Viscount Goderich.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
13 *March* 1857.

Under 2 *oz.*

EMIGRATION (AUSTRALIAN COLONIES).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 25 July 1856;—*for*,

"COPIES or EXTRACTS of any DESPATCHES relative to EMIGRATION to the AUSTRALIAN COLONIES (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 42, of Session 1855)."

Colonial Office,
21 March 1857.

H. LABOUCHERE.

(*Mr. John Ball.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
21 *March* 1857.

SCHEDULE.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Despatches from the Governor-General.

SIR C. A. FITZROY.

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
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2	11 October (No. 141) -	EMIGRATION RETURN for 1853; showing Number of Arrivals -	1
3	14 November (No. 164) -	IMMIGRATION REMITTANCES. Stating that the sums of 40,000 *l.* and 10,000 *l.* will shortly be remitted to the Emigration Commissioners	3
4	15 November (No. 165) -	ASSISTED IMMIGRANTS' ACT, enclosing Notice published of the Rules established under this Act, and Reports from the Agent for Immigration on the working of the Act - - - - - - - -	3
5	26 December (No. 172) -	ELIGIBILITY OF NORTH AMERICAN-BUILT SHIPS for the conveyance of Emigrants. Report from Immigration Agent enclosed -	7
6	28 December (No. 174) -	IMMIGRATION REMITTANCES. Reporting that the two sums of 50,000 *l.* and 16,000 *l.* are remitted to the Emigration Commissioners -	10
7	30 December (No. 180) -	ACT to amend the ASSISTED IMMIGRATION ACT of 1852, transmitted, with Remarks - - - - - - - - - - -	11
8	31 December (No. 189) -	CONTINUANCE OF IMMIGRATION. Enclosing an Address from the Legislative Council, recommending that a further sum of 100,000 *l.* should be remitted to ensure the continuance of an uninterrupted Supply of Labour - - - - - - - - - - - - -	13
9	31 December (No. 195) -	IMMIGRATION REMITTANCE; recommending that one-fifth of the sum of 100,000 *l.* may be appropriated for EMIGRATION TO THE MORETON BAY DISTRICT - - - - - - - -	14
	1855:		
10	15 January (No. 4) - -	ASSISTED IMMIGRANTS' ACT. Return of Sums received for Passages under this Act - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	14
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11	19 February (No. 15) -	IMMIGRATION REMITTANCE. £. 10,000, first instalment of the further sum of 100,000 *l.* - - - - - - - - - - -	16
12	2 March (No. 23) - -	ARRIVAL OF IMMIGRANTS PER SHIP "LADY KENNAWAY," with Report of the Immigration Board - - - - - - - -	16
13	5 April (No. 41) - -	SCOTTISH AUSTRALIAN EMIGRATION SOCIETY. Forwarding further Correspondence with Mr. Crawford, the Secretary to the Society	19
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15	18 May (No. 66) - -	FOREIGN IMMIGRATION. List of Persons to whom Permissions have been granted, and Expenditure on account of this Emigration - -	23
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17	2 June (No. 80) - -	IMMIGRATION REMITTANCES. Further sums of 12,320 *l.* 10 *s.* and 7,679 *l.* 10 *s.* remitted - - - - - - - - - -	24
18	18 June (No. 88) - -	EMIGRATION RETURN for 1854, showing Number of Arrivals -	24
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22	21 December (No. 201) -	FURTHER REMITTANCE, for EMIGRATION SERVICES, of 8,381 *l.* 6 *s.* 5 *d.*, and reporting Vote of 100,000 *l.* for Immigration Services of 1856 - - - - - - - - - - -	27
	1856:		
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VICTORIA.

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SIR CHARLES HOTHAM.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Despatches from the Governor.

SIR H. E. F. YOUNG.

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8	11 May (No. 34) - -	IMMIGRATION RETURNS FOR 1854. Transmitted with Report from the Immigration Agent - - - - - - - - -	101
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10	15 May (No. 37) - -	EMIGRANT SHIP "NASHWAUK." Reporting the Stranding of this Vessel at the Entrance to Port Adelaide, and the Landing of the Immigrants without casualty - - - - - - - - -	108
		GOVERNOR SIR R. G. MACDONNELL.	
11	25 June (No. 2) - -	IRISH FEMALE IMMIGRANTS. Calling attention to the disproportionate number of Single Women sent out from Ireland, stating that they are unsuitable to the Colony, and that it is impossible to obtain Employment for them; pointing out the difficulties of disposing of them, and requesting that this Emigration may at once be stopped - -	108

SOUTH AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
	1855:		
12	13 July (No. 5) - -	IMMIGRATION AGENTS' REPORT for the Quarter to 30 June 1855; enclosed, and calling attention to the NUMBER OF SINGLE WOMEN STILL UNEMPLOYED in the Colony, and requesting that all Emigration of this nature may be stopped - - - - - - - -	110
13	31 August (No. 20) - -	EMIGRATION FROM GREAT BRITAIN. Complaining of the management of this Emigration by which Emigrants applying to be sent to other Colonies, are shipped to South Australia, and by which several are found to have arrived in the Colony under assumed Names -	116
14	24 September (No. 25) -	EMIGRATION FROM IRELAND. Detailing the difficulties experienced in consequence of the excessive number of Immigrants sent to the Colony from Ireland; measures adopted for the disposal of the Immigrants. Instructions requested in regard to the Expenses incurred -	120
15	26 October (No. 32) -	IRISH FEMALE EMIGRATION TO NEW SOUTH WALES. Acknowledging the Report of the Emigration Commissioners on the subject, and urging its discontinuance at present to South Australia - - -	130
16	26 October (No. 33) -	IMMIGRATION AGENT'S REPORT. Quarter to 30 September 1855. Remarks on the Ships, and the Immigrants that have arrived during the Quarter - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	131
17	29 October (No. 34) -	FINANCE. REMITTANCE of 951 *l.* on account of Deposits in Aid of Emigration - - - - - - - - - - - - -	136
18	17 November (No. 36) -	EMIGRANT SHIP "TAYMOUTH CASTLE." Report of Immigration Board enclosed, as to the Existence of Small-pox on Board this Vessel. Recommending certain precautionary measures for adoption -	136
	1856:		
19	2 February (No. 62) -	IRISH FEMALE EMIGRATION. Acknowledging the Report of the Emigration Commissioners on this subject, and requesting that all Assisted Immigration at the Expense of the Colony may be discontinued till further advice is given - - - - - - - - - -	138
20	6 March (No. 68) - -	CONTINUANCE OF EMIGRATION. Enclosing an Address of the Legislative Council, requesting that Emigration to South Australia may be resumed at the rate of one Vessel per Month - - - - -	139

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THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIDNEY HERBERT.

	1855:		
1	24 February (No. 4) -	PENALTIES FOR BREACHES OF CHARTER-PARTIES. Suggestions of the Emigration Commissioners in reference to the Assessment of - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	141
		THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR GEORGE GREY, BART.	
2	25 April (No. 12) - -	RETURN PASSAGE—ALLOWANCES TO SURGEONS OF EMIGRANT SHIPS. Increase of from 40 *l.* to 60 *l.* - - - - -	141
		THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD JOHN RUSSELL.	
3	19 July (No. 16) - -	PROPORTION OF EMIGRANTS SELECTED FROM GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND RESPECTIVELY. Objections of the Governor of New South Wales to certain Irish Emigrants. Report from Emigration Commissioners - - - - - - - - - -	141
		THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR W. MOLESWORTH, BART.	
4	28 July (No. 2) - -	EMIGRATION OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN. Letter from the Emigration Commissioners enclosed, in reference to the wishes expressed by the Local Government on the subject - - - - - - -	142
5	31 August (No. 7) - -	DEPOSIT AND REMITTANCE REGULATIONS. Report from the Emigration Commissioners in regard to these Rules - - - - -	142

SOUTH AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
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6	12 September (No. 8) -	FEMALE EMIGRATION FROM IRELAND. Emigration Commissioners have been instructed to cease sending Unmarried Females from Ireland, except such as may form part of any Families sent out - -	142
		THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR GEORGE GREY, BART.	
7	15 October (No. 15) -	FEMALE EMIGRATION FROM IRELAND. Enclosing Report from the Emigration Commissioners, pointing out the Causes which have led to their sending out this Class of Persons, and stating that steps will be taken to increase the number of English and Scotch Emigrants - -	143
		THE RIGHT HONOURABLE H. LABOUCHERE.	
	1856:		
8	12 February (No. 4) -	MANAGEMENT OF EMIGRATION TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA. Acknowledging the Governor's Despatches, complaining of the way in which this Emigration is conducted, and enclosing Report from the Emigration Commissioners, entering at length into the Question, and in vindication of the course they have pursued in sending out Emigrants to the Colony - - - - - - - - - - - -	144
9	18 February (No. 5) -	EMBARKATION OF EMIGRANTS UNDER ASSUMED NAMES. Enclosing Report from the Emigration Commissioners, in reference to the cases of this description stated to have occurred on board the "Velocity" Emigrant Ship, reported in the Governor's Despatch, No. 20, 31 August 1855 - - - - - - - - - - - -	152
10	5 April (No. 13) - -	EMIGRANTS SENT OUT BY THE COMMISSIONERS. Acknowledging the Governor's further Despatches, Nos. 32 and 33, of 26th October 1855, and enclosing an extract of a Report from the Emigration Commissioners in reference to a statement made by the Immigration Agent in the Colony - - - - - - - - - -	154
11	18 April (No. 16) - -	EMIGRANT SHIP "TAYMOUTH CASTLE." Acknowledging the Governor's Despatch reporting that Smallpox had broken out in this Vessel on the Voyage - - - - - - - - - -	155
12	18 June (No. 29) - -	CONTINUANCE OF IMMIGRATION TO THE COLONY. Acknowledging the Governor's Despatch, forwarding an Address of the Legislative Council on the subject. Remarks as to the ambiguity of the Governor's Despatch, and stating that instructions have been given to the Emigration Commissioners to adhere to the terms of the Resolution of the Council - - - - - - - - - - - -	155
13	8 July (No. 32) - -	LOSS OF THE EMIGRANT SHIP "NASHWAUK." Enclosing Report of the Emigration Commissioners, in reference to the Recovery of the Expenses incurred by the Local Government on this Account - -	156

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Despatches from the Governor.

GOVERNOR FITZGERALD.

	1854:		
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2	20 November (No. 132) -	ARRIVAL OF THE SHIP "ESMERALDA" WITH EMIGRANTS. 205 Emigrants landed, all in good Health - - - - - -	158
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3	1 January (No. 1) - -	INTRODUCTION OF BOYS from the Philanthropic Society's School at Reigate. Enclosing a Letter from the Immigration Agent, pointing out the Evils attending this Immigration, and urging its immediate Discontinuance - - - - - - - - - -	159

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Number of Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
	1855:		
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5	16 March (No. 35) - -	MAINTENANCE OF IMMIGRANTS ON LANDING. Requesting that the Colony may not be charged with the support of Immigrants before obtaining Private Service, on Landing - - - - - - - -	164
6	3 May (No. 50) - -	ARRIVAL OF THE SHIP "BERKSHIRE" WITH IMMIGRANTS, reported. Satisfactory state of the Ship. Remarks in reference to the Retention by the Emigration Commissioners of the Certificates of Character of Immigrants, and to the power of Enforcing Agreements -	165
7	2 July (No. 67) - -	SELECTION of EMIGRANTS sent to the Colony. Acknowledging the Report of the Emigration Commissioners on this subject - - -	166
		CONTINUANCE OF FREE IMMIGRATION. Expressing a hope that this Immigration may be continued.	
		GOVERNOR KENNEDY.	
8	18 October (No. 104) -	PROCLAMATION in reference to the PASSENGERS' ACT, enclosed, for Confirmation - - - - - - - - - - - -	167

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIDNEY HERBERT.

	1855:		
1	21 February (No. 4) -	IMMIGRATION AGENT. With reference to Appointment of Mr. Symmons and Mr. Clifton, calling Attention to the Instructions of the 8th December 1854, directing that the Permanent Appointments of Immigration Agents should be put an end to - - - - - -	169
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2	18 April (No. 13) - -	INTRODUCTION OF BOYS from the Philanthropic Society's School at Reigate. Acknowledging the Governor's Despatch, and enclosing a Letter addressed to the Rev. Sydney Turner on the subject - - -	169
3	25 April (No. 15) - -	RETURN PASSAGE ALLOWANCES TO SURGEONS OF EMIGRANT SHIPS. Increased from 40 *l.* to 60 *l.* - - - - - -	170
		THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD JOHN RUSSELL.	
4	1 May (No. 3) - -	INTRODUCTION OF BOYS from the Philanthropic Society's School. Enclosing a Letter from the Resident Chaplain on the subject - -	170
		THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR W. MOLESWORTH, BART.	
5	12 October (No. 13) -	EMIGRANT SHIP "BERKSHIRE" arrival with Immigrants. Enclosing Report from the Emigration Commissioners, in reference to their Retention of the Certificates of Character of the Immigrants - - -	172
		THE RIGHT HONOURABLE H. LABOUCHERE.	
	1856:		
6	25 January (No. 2) - -	CONTINUANCE OF FREE EMIGRATION should be proportionate to the supply of Convicts, so long as the Colony can provide for the Emigrants. Enclosing Extracts of a Report of the Emigration Commissioners on the subject. Remarks in reference to the MAINTENANCE OF EMIGRANTS on their arrival, and stating that another ship with Emigrants shall be sent whenever they have a good prospect of thriving in the Colony - - - - - - - - - - - -	173

WESTERN AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

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	1856:		
7	14 February (No. 9) -	SUPPLY OF EMIGRANTS. Stating that the present is considered a favourable opportunity for the despatch of an Emigrant Ship, and that the Emigration Commissioners have been instructed accordingly - -	177
8	16 April (No. 13) - -	PROCLAMATION UNDER THE PASSENGERS' ACT. No objection to, but a fresh one will be required under the Passengers' Act of 1855. Enclosing a Report from the Emigration Commissioners in reference to their progress in collecting Emigrants for the Colony - - - - -	178

TASMANIA.

Despatches from the Governor.

SIR W. DENISON.

	1854:		
1	17 August (No. 145) -	EMIGRANT VESSELS. Recommending that the proportion of one-third of the total number sent out, should be sent to Launceston - -	180
2	26 September (No. 10) -	DUTIES AND EMOLUMENT OF THE IMMIGRATION AGENT; enclosing a Report from Mr. Loch of the nature and extent of his Duties	180
3	7 October (No. 20) - - [Extract.]	ACT "TO REGULATE THE BINDING OUT OF ASSISTED EMIGRANTS" enclosed, with Remarks - - - - - - -	183
4	28 October (No. 29) -	REGULATIONS FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF EMIGRANTS. Stating that a Nominee Emigration is undesirable, as the existing Bounty Regulations are found to work well - - - - - - - -	186
5	20 November No. 51) - [Extract.]	ACT "TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO MASTERS, SERVANTS, AND APPRENTICES" enclosed, with Explanatory Remarks - - - - - - - - - - - -	187
6	29 December (No. 88) -	IMMIGRATION EXPENDITURE. Return for Half-year ended 30 June 1854 - - - - - - - - - - - - -	194
7	30 December (No. 93) -	REGULATIONS FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF IMMIGRANTS UNDER THE BOUNTY SYSTEM. Commenting upon the Report of the Emigration Commissioners on this scheme, and enclosing a Report from the Immigration Agent at Hobart Town on the subject - - -	195
8	30 December (No. 95) -	CASE OF TWO FEMALE EMIGRANTS, one of whom is stated to be imbecile. Report from the Immigration Agent - - - - - -	204
		GOVERNOR SIR H. E. F. YOUNG.	
	1855:		
9	30 March (No. 37) - -	TWO FEMALE EMIGRANTS. Stating that these Immigrants have been provided for, at a cost of 30 *l.* a year - - - - - - -	205
10	10 April (No. 42) - -	IMMIGRATION AGENT'S REPORT for the Half-year ended 31 December 1854, transmitted with Remarks - - - - - - - -	206
11	9 May (No. 64) - -	IMMIGRATION EXPENDITURE. Return for the Half year ended 30 December 1854 - - - - - - - - - - - -	221
12	31 May (No. 68) - - [Extract.]	IMMIGRATION DURING THE YEAR 1854. Extract from Report on the Annual Blue Book, showing the Number of Immigrants introduced, and at whose Expense, the Number of Departures, &c. - -	222
13	7 November (No. 167) -	BOUNTY-TICKET SYSTEM OF IMMIGRATION. Reporting in favour of this system, and enclosing Report from the Immigration Agent on the subject - - - - - - - - - - - -	222
	1856:		
14	10 March (No. 36) - -	IMMIGRATION AGENT'S REPORT for the Half-year ending 31 December 1855 - - - - - - - - - - - -	327

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THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR GEORGE GREY, BART.

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
	1855:		
1	21 March (No. 27) - - [Extract.]	ACT "TO REGULATE THE BINDING OUT OF ASSISTED EMIGRANTS." Communicating Her Majesty's confirmation of this Act, and enclosing a Report from the Emigration Commissioners, suggesting that it should be modified and amended - - - - - -	230
2	25 April (No. 43) - -	RETURN PASSAGE ALLOWANCES TO SURGEONS OF EMIGRANT SHIPS increased from 40 *l.* to 60 *l.* - - - - - -	231
		THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD JOHN RUSSELL.	
3	3 May (No. 5) - -	IMMIGRATION AGENT'S EMOLUMENTS. No objection to the increased rate of Salary of 400 *l.* per Annum - - - - - -	232
4	2 July No. 43) - -	BEST MODE OF CONDUCTING IMMIGRATION INTO TASMANIA. Referring to Sir W. Denison's Despatches, Nos. 93 and 95, of 30 December 1854, enclosing a Report from the Emigration Commissioners, and requesting an opinion as to the working of the different kinds of Immigration - - - - - - - - - - -	232
5	19 July (No. 47) - -	PROPORTION OF IMMIGRANTS SELECTED FROM GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND RESPECTIVELY. Objection of the Governor of New South Wales to certain Irish Emigrants. Report from the Emigration Commissioners - - - - - - - - - -	234
		THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR W. MOLESWORTH, BART.	
6	21 September (No. 20) -	EXPENSE OF PROVIDING FOR TWO FEMALE EMIGRANTS. Referring to Lord John Russell's Despatch, No. 43, of 2 July, and stating that his suggestion cannot be acted upon. - - - - - - -	235
		THE RIGHT HONOURABLE H. LABOUCHERE.	
	1856:		
7	27 March (No. 41) - -	BOUNTY SYSTEM OF IMMIGRATION. Acknowledging his Despatch furnishing the required Information, and enclosing a Copy of the Report of the Emigration Commissioners on the subject - - -	235

APPENDIX.

TASMANIA.

1	No. 18. (22 December 1855)	AN ACT to Establish a BOARD OF IMMIGRATION COMMISSIONERS, and to enable such Commissioners to raise 200,000 *l.* by Debentures, chargeable upon the General Revenue of Van Diemen's Land - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	237
2	No. 28. (7 February 1856)	AN ACT to amend the Law relating to MASTERS, SERVANTS, AND APPRENTICES - - - - - - - - - - - -	240

COPIES or EXTRACTS of any DESPATCHES relative to EMIGRATION to the AUSTRALIAN COLONIES (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 42, of Session 1855).

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Despatches from Governor-General Sir C. A. FitzRoy.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.
Governor-General Sir C. A. FitzRoy to the Duke of Newcastle.
1 September 1854.

(No. 125.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *C. A. FitzRoy* to the Duke of *Newcastle.*

Government House, Sydney, 1 September 1854.

My Lord Duke, (Received, 5 December 1854.)

IN pursuance of the instructions contained in Lord Stanley's despatch of the 14th October 1841, No. 16, I have the honour to transmit the accompanying duplicates of permissions which have been issued to the persons named in the accompanying list* to import immigrants from the continent of Europe, under the terms of the Regulations of 17th October 1853, a copy of which was transmitted to your Grace in my despatch† of the 28th February last, No. 41.

* (Nominal list of 18 persons.)

† *Vide* papers presented February 1855, page 3.

2. I have the honour to state that a compliance with these applications, when added to the amount of bounties already recommended, will make a total sum of 8,424*l.*, out of the 10,000 *l.* appropriated to the introduction of continental labourers under the Regulations referred to.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Chas. A. FitzRoy.*

— No. 2. —

No. 2.
Governor-General Sir C. A. FitzRoy to Sir G. Grey.
11 October 1854.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *C. A. FitzRoy* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.; dated Government House, Sydney, 11 October 1854 (No. 141).

(Received, 25 January 1855.)

"I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith returns relating to land and emigration, required by the Circular Despatch from the Secretary of State, dated 22d March 1845.

* * * * *

"Return of emigrants who have arrived in the colony during the year ended on 31 December 1853."

Enclosure in No. 2.

RETURN of Emigrants who have Arrived in the Colony during the Year ending the 31st December 1853.

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	Nature and Extent of Assistance Afforded.	NUMBERS LANDED.									DEATHS ON THE VOYAGE.								REMARKS.
		14 Years and Upwards.		Under 14 Years, but not under 12 Months.		Under 12 Months.		TOTAL.			14 Years and Upwards.		Under 14 Years, but not under 12 Months.		Under 12 Months.		TOTAL.		
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
Assisted to Emigrate out of Public Funds:																			
England - -	The Emigrants shown here obtained passages under the Regulations of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, the cost of which to the public was charged on the Colonial Land Fund of this Colony.	1,662	2,104	813	874	113	117	2,588	3,095	5,683	18	30	58	66	30	22	106	118	(a)
Scotland - -		307	411	147	167	24	21	478	599	1,077	1	9	17	22	6	7	24	38	
Ireland - - -		732	2,170	235	396	37	48	1,004	2,614	3,618	4	10	8	16	4	7	16	23	
The rest of Europe		3	16	4	5	–	–	7	21	28	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
United States -		2	3	–	1	–	–	2	4	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Sierra Leone - -		–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Total Assisted Emigration - -		2,706	4,704	1,199	1,443	174	186	4,079	6,333	10,412	23	49	83	104	40	36	146	189	
Unassisted:																			
England - -																			
Scotland - -																			
Ireland - - -																			
The rest of Europe		1,696	838	404	417	–	–	2,100	1,255	3,355	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
United States -																			
Sierra Leone - -																			
Total Unassisted Emigration -		1,696	838	404	417	–	–	2,100	1,255	3,355	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
GRAND TOTAL - - -		4,402	5,542	1,603	1,860	174	186	6,179	7,588	13,767	23	49	83	104	40	36	146	189	

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	BIRTHS ON THE VOYAGE.			Number of Agricultural Labourers.	Number of Shepherds.	Number of Domestic Servants.		Number of Mechanics engaged in Erecting Buildings, or in obtaining or preparing Building Materials.	Number of Trades-people Preparing or Selling Articles of Food.		Number of Trades-people Engaged in Making Articles of Clothing.		Number of Mechanics, &c. not included in the foregoing Columns.		Amount per Head of Emigrant Tax, and under what Authority levied.	Gross Amount of Emigrant Tax Received during the Year.	Number of Ships Arrived with Emigrants.	Average Length of the Voyage.	REMARKS.
	Male.	Female.	Total.			Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.					
Assisted:																			
England - - -				701	53	25	764	328	21	1	55	113	479	17					
Scotland - - -				118	18	3	165	41	5	–	76	12	46	4					
Ireland - - -	87	76	163	561	26	9	1,658	26	7	–	18	61	85	14			31	114 days	
The rest of Europe -				2	1	–	6	–	–	–	–	3	–	1					
United States - -				–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	2	–					
Sierra Leone - -				–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–					
Total Assisted Emigration -	87	76	163	1,382	98	37	2,594	395	33	1	149	189	612	36	–	–	–		
Unassisted:																			
England - - -																			
Scotland - - -																			
Ireland - - -																			
The rest of Europe -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	..	(b)
United States - -																			
Sierra Leone - -																			
Total Unassisted Emigration -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–		
GRAND TOTAL -	87	76	163	1,382	98	37	2,594	395	33	1	149	189	612	36	–	–	–		

(a) Married Women are not included in the numbers shown in the Columns assigned to Female Labourers.

(b) The Returns furnished to this Department by the Customs do not contain any further information than is herein inserted.

Immigration Office, Sydney,
28 June 1854.

(signed) *H. H. Browne*,
Agent for Immigration.

— No. 3.—

(No. 164.)

No. 3.
Governor-General Sir C. A. FitzRoy to Sir G. Grey.
14 November 1854.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *C. A. FitzRoy* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 14 November 1854.

Sir, (Received, 12 February 1855.)

WITH reference to my despatch* of the 21st July last, No. 98, reporting my intention to remit a further sum of 100,000 *l.* to the Immigration Commissioners for the service of emigration to this colony, and the transmission of 50,000 *l.* on account thereof; I have the honour to inform you that the sum of 40,000 *l.* will be sent to the Commissioners by Her Majesty's ship "Calliope," expected to sail from Sydney shortly; and that the further sum of 10,000 *l.* will be remitted to them by an early opportunity, making, with the 50,000 *l.* already sent, the full amount of 100,000 *l.* mentioned in my despatch alluded to.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Sess. 1855, page 23.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Chas. A. FitzRoy.*

— No. 4. —

(No. 165.)

No. 4.
Governor-General Sir C. A. FitzRoy to Sir G. Grey.
15 November 1854.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *C. A. FitzRoy* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 15 November 1854.

Sir, (Received, 12 February 1855.)

IN a despatch* from the Duke of Newcastle of the 3d February last, No. 15, enclosing an extract from a report of the Emigration Commissioners, showing the measures proposed to be taken by them for renewing immigration to the colony, I was informed by his Grace that authority had been given to them for making the experiment which they had suggested for sending out emigrants upon condition of their repaying the cost of their introduction; and the Commissioners in a letter dated 17th February, addressed to the Colonial Secretary, forwarded copies of the regulations issued by them on the subject; and notified the charter of the "Sabrina," to convey the first body of emigrants under them.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 436, Session 1854, page 56.

2. In consequence of the receipt of these documents, arrangements were made for giving effect in this colony, on the arrival of the immigrants, to the measures adopted in England for introducing the new system, in pursuance of the Assisted Immigrants' Act; and I transmit for your information a copy of a notice which I caused to be published, of the rules established for the guidance of the agent for immigration here for this purpose. In these regulations it will be observed, that provision was made for terminating the engagements of single female immigrants on their marriage, as well as for obtaining the concurrence of the parents of such females, under the age of 18 years, in respect to the situations in which the agent might propose to place them, if residing within a reasonable distance of Sydney, and in his opinion fit to exercise a choice in their daughters' engagements; but under a report which has since been received from that officer, it has been deemed necessary to exempt unmarried females from the provisions of the Act; and a clause for this purpose has been inserted in a Bill which has been introduced into the Legislative Council, with a view to amend the Assisted Immigrants' Act in certain respects, in accordance with the suggestions made by the Emigration Commissioners in a report which accompanied your predecessor's despatch* of the 23d September 1853, No. 126.

Enclosure 1, 8 July 1854.

* *Vide* same Paper, page 55.

3. I enclose a copy of the report from the agent for immigration to which I have referred, in which he notices the difficulties which have manifested themselves in carrying into effect with newly arrived immigrants the provisions of the Act 16 Vict. No. 42, together with a copy of a further report from that officer on the same subject. But as the repayment of the passage-money of single

Enclosure 2, 27 October 1854.

Enclosure 3, 2 November 1854.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

single females is not to be insisted upon, and it is proposed to provide in the Bill already alluded to which is now before the Legislature, for applying the provisions of the 11th section of the Act 16 Vict. No. 42, for the punishment of immigrants absconding from service, to persons wilfully evading the taking of service without repayment of passage-money, the obstacles to the present working of the system adverted to by the immigration agent may hereafter be less felt, and further experience may enable him to make a more favourable report on it than that which is contained in the letters now transmitted. The subject of immigration is also at present under the consideration of a Committee of the Legislative Council, which has not yet made its report.

4. I may add, that a sum amounting to upwards of 4,000 *l.* was received by the agent for immigration, and paid into the Colonial Treasury, in repayment of passage-money of immigrants, between the time of his commencing to act on the system in July and the 30th September last. A return of these payments and of those for immigrants by vessels which have since arrived, will be transmitted by an early opportunity.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Chas. A. FitzRoy.*

Encl. 1, in No. 4.

Enclosure 1, in No. 4.

Assisted Immigrants' Act.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney,
8 July 1854.

His Excellency the Governor-general directs it to be notified for general information, that he has received official notification that the Right honourable the Secretary of State had instructed the Land and Emigration Commissioners to commence emigration to the colony of New South Wales in accordance with the provisions of the Act* of Council 16 Victoria, No. 42; and as immigrants may shortly be expected to arrive in pursuance of those instructions, his Excellency has directed the agent for immigration to adopt the following rules for his guidance in carrying out the regulations published by the Commissioners in pursuance of the Act.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 1001, Session 1853.

2. Each vessel bringing immigrants to the colony selected under the Act referred to, will be anchored in the usual place at the mouth of the Sydney Cove, and the day on which the hiring will take place will be notified to the public in the Government Gazette.

3. On the arrival of a vessel the unmarried females will, as heretofore, be immediately landed, and lodged in the depôt at Hyde Park.

4. As soon as the usual preliminary arrangements can be completed, the immigration Board will hold the customary inspection of the immigrants, previously to which inspection no person will be allowed to visit the vessel, unless authorised to do so in writing by the immigration agent.

5. Seven days after the arrival of the vessel at her usual anchorage (exclusive of Sunday) will be allowed to the immigrants to determine whether they will avail themselves of the opportunity offered by the Act for the cancellation of the indentures entered into by them in the United Kingdom, by paying to the immigration agent the balance of the passage-money remaining due at the time of their arrival, or take service for a period of two years with such employers as may be approved of by the immigration agent.

6. Immigrants not desiring to avail themselves of these advantages will be hired out, at the discretion of the immigration agent, by virtue of the authority vested in him by the Act.

7. Immigrants who may not desire to pay the balance of their passage-money or hire of their own free will to such employers as may be approved of by the immigration agent, must be prepared to enter into service in pursuance of the provisions of the Act, and will not be allowed to leave the vessel until their indentures are duly executed.

8. The indentures which the immigrants will be required to sign will be for a period of two years, but it will be in the power of the immigrant after the expiration of the first year to terminate the indenture on giving three months' notice in writing, and repaying to the employer the balance of passage-money then remaining due.

9. Although unmarried females of the age of 14 years and upwards will be required to enter into an agreement for a period of two years, a condition will be introduced into their indentures by which they can terminate them in case of marriage, on giving one month's notice to their employers, and paying to such employers the balance of passage-money then remaining due.

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10. In the case of single females under the age of 18 years, the concurrence of the parents will be obtained by the immigration agent in respect to the situations in which he may propose to place them, provided such parents reside within a reasonable distance of Sydney, and are, in the opinion of the immigration agent, fit to exercise a choice in their daughters' engagements.

11. In making their agreements the immigrants will be entitled to make their own terms, and they will be at the same time furnished with authentic information of the current rate of wages given to persons of their classes in the colony. They will, however, be required by their indentures to repay to their employers in eight quarterly instalments the amount of the passage-money advanced to the immigration agent by such employers on their account.

12. Persons who may wish to hire any of the immigrants referred to in this notice, will, on being approved of by the immigration agent, be required, on completion of the indentures noticed above, to pay to the immigration agent one moiety of the passage-money which may be due to the Government for the passage of such immigrant at the time of the indenture being entered into, and will at the same time give a promissory note, payable at one of the Sydney banks, at 12 months' date, for the second moiety of such passage-money; and these amounts the employers will be entitled to deduct from the wages of the immigrants on whose account such payments have been respectively made, in eight quarterly instalments during the term of their indentures.

13. In the hiring of the single females at the depôt at Hyde Park, the same course will be adopted as heretofore, and no person, therefore, will be admitted to the hiring-room of the institution whose respectability is not known to the immigration agent, or who shall not be provided with an introduction to that officer from a clergyman or magistrate resident in the colony, or who shall be the proprietor of a public-house, lodging-house, or other place of public entertainment.

By his Excellency's command,
C. D. Riddell.

Enclosure 2, in No. 4.

Encl. 2, in No. 4.

(No. 54/336.)

The Agent for Immigration to the Colonial Secretary, relative to the unsatisfactory working of the Immigration under the Assisted Immigrants' Act.

Sir, Immigration Office, Sydney, 27 October 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-general, that serious difficulties have already began to manifest themselves in carrying out with the newly arrived immigrants the provisions of the Act 16 Vict., No. 42.

2. In consequence of the great length of time that had elapsed between the cessation of immigration in the month of January last and its resumption, and the consequent demand for every description of labour, I found no difficulty on the arrival of the first ships which were despatched under the Act in securing employers who were willing to become responsible for the amount due to the Government, and therefore, with one or two exceptions, the Act was satisfactorily carried out.

3. I regret, however, to observe that latterly a growing disinclination exists amongst employers, particularly those requiring the service of mechanics, to become responsible for the amount of passage-money due to the Government, until they are aware that the persons they have employed are suited for their service.

4. This disinclination is more clearly exhibited in reference to the engagement of single females, who, although still much in demand, do not now find employers who are willing to saddle themselves with an obligation which they will be obliged to meet, although they may at the same time find it inconvenient to keep (for a sufficient time to enable him to pay the amount) a servant who may turn out to be perfectly useless.

5. The failure in the working of this Act may be attributed to several causes which have lately arisen, and which are not likely to be removed while the same state of monetary depression continues to prevail in commercial circles.

6. In the first place, I attribute the failure to the increasing tightness of the money market, which induces persons to seriously consider before they incur an obligation whether they will be in a position to meet it when called upon to do so.

7. Secondly, several breaches of agreements have been already made by immigrants who have been hired under the Act leaving their employers without remedy, whilst other employers have been obliged to sacrifice the amount paid sooner than keep in their establishment persons ill suited to their wants.

8. Thirdly, the class of female domestic servants who have lately arrived are not at all suitable for the wants of the colony, being principally composed of persons from the southern counties of Ireland, and from their entire ignorance of domestic duties suited only for dairy and farming pursuits, a description of domestics for which there is only a limited demand; and although from the great scarcity of domestic servants employers may be found willing to teach these girls their duty, if engaged at moderate wages, they are not willing to advance the sum of twelve pounds (12 *l.*), and be obliged eventually to get rid of them in consequence of their unsuitableness and dirty habits.

 9. Many

NEW SOUTH WALES.

9. Many of the girls, failing to obtain employment here, have been distributed by me, as far as practicable, between the depôts at Parramatta and Maitland, but with little better success; and there now still remain in this establishment no fewer than 230 of them, and I am fearful that, from their extreme unsuitableness for domestic service, will render it a matter of serious difficulty, if not impossibility, to provide them with employment under the provisions of the Act.

10. There are also a considerable number of single men by the "Lady Ann" still unhired, and as the lay days of the vessel have expired, they have been landed to seek employment, and I fear with little prospect of their ever coming to defray the amount due by the Government.

11. Under these altered circumstances of the money market, the power to make compulsory agreements is valueless, as I cannot find any one willing to take an unwilling servant into his house, when he can supply himself at the same rate of wages with one who is willing and anxious to serve him.

12. I find by the immigration officer's report from Brisbane, that the same feeling exists there, and that there are still no fewer than seventy-six (76) immigrants remaining unhired from the "Monsoon" and "Ghenghis Khan."

13. I have therefore thought it my duty to bring the foregoing facts under his Excellency's consideration, and as the system is not only working injuriously for the colony by causing the introduction of a class of females wholly unsuited to its requirements as well as entailing a great expense for their maintenance after arrival, I would suggest that the amount of the bond required to be paid in the colony on their account should only be enforced in those cases in which females may be taken from the depôt by their relatives, and not on account of those who take service from it.

14. With regard to the married and single male immigrants, I would not at present recommend any relaxation of the law, although I have very little doubt that the Act will also break down in regard to them, more particularly as that portion of it in which so much confidence was placed by its framers, which provides for a compulsory agreement, has become entirely a dead letter, from the disinclination of masters to deal with unwilling servants, as well as from other causes alluded to.

15. I have delayed forwarding this report until I had ascertained the result of the hiring of the single females by the "Caroline," this took place on the 23d instant, and when it is to be observed that only eleven (11) hired out of one hundred and eight (108) who were advertised, it is conclusive in my mind, that with the probable immediate arrival of the ships "Kate," "Patrician," and "Stamboul," some steps must at once be taken to alter the system which is at present in force, and which is evidently distasteful to the majority of the community of New South Wales.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. H. Browne.*

Encl. 3, in No. 4.

Enclosure 3, in No. 4.

(No. 54/347.)

THE Agent for Immigration to the Colonial Secretary, relative to further difficulties experienced in working out the Assisted Immigrants' Act.

Sir, Immigration Office, Sydney, 2 November 1854.

WITH reference to my former letter of the 30th ultimo, relative to the difficulty which I have experienced in carrying out the provisions of the Assisted Immigrants' Act in respect to the single females, I do myself the honour to point out a further difficulty which has presented itself.

arpenters	14
awyers	2
ricklayers	4
insmith	1
ainters and Glaziers	3
lacksmiths	3
achinist	1
oachbuilder	1
	29

2. There are now on board the immigrant ship, "Anglo-Saxon," several mechanics as noted in the margin, who I am inclined to believe, are merely avoiding to take service until the expiration of the lay days, with a view to evade the payment of the amount of their indentures, as has been already done by some of the mechanics who arrived in the "Lady Ann."

3. In my letter above referred to I alluded to the disinclination on the part of employers to enter into compulsory agreements, and as this determination is equally applicable to mechanics who arrive under the Act, that portion of it which empowers me to make agreements of such a character may be considered to have become a dead letter.

4. If, therefore, this Act is to be at all upheld, it is necessary that some steps should be immediately taken to enforce the payment of the bonds, and as I feel certain that with the present exorbitant rate of wages paid to mechanics, all who arrive here will find no difficulty, if they so wish it, to obtain the means for releasing themselves from their bonds, I would beg to propose that I should be authorised, in conjunction with the colonial architect, to make compulsory agreements at the rate of wages current in the colony for such mechanics as may be usefully employed on the public works now in progress, until they shall have repaid to the Government the amount of their bonds.

5. As I have reason to believe that many of these mechanics have not only the means at commmand to release themselves, but that they have also refused good employment, my impression is, that one or two examples in the manner proposed here will suffice to show that

that the Government will require the amount of the bonds in every instance, and that the mechanics will soon find employment on their own account to secure their release.

6. Should his Excellency coincide in my view of this matter, I believe that the mechanics by the "Anglo-Saxon" will afford a fitting opportunity for trying the effect of the compulsory portion of the Act.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. H. Browne.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 172.)

No. 5.
Governor-General Sir C. A. FitzRoy to Sir G. Grey.
26 December 1854.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *C. A. FitzRoy* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 26 December 1854.
(Received, 17 March 1855.)

Sir,

WITH reference to the Duke of Newcastle's despatch* of the 13th March last, No. 25, forwarding the copy of a Report from the Emigration Commissioners upon the eligibility of North American salted ships for the conveyance of emigrants, I have the honour to transmit the copy of a report I have received from the immigration agent thereon, which appears to me to contain many observations deserving the serious consideration of the Commissioners.

* *Vide* Papers presented August 1854, Part I. page 66.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Chas. A. FitzRoy.*

Enclosure in No. 5.

Encl. in No. 5.

(No. 54/302.)

THE Agent for Immigration to the Colonial Secretary, returning Despatch from the Secretary of State, relative to the eligibilty of North American or Salted Vessels for the Conveyance of Emigrants.

Sir, Immigration Office, Sydney, 10 October 1854.

IN returning herewith the despatch from his Grace the Secretary of State, covering a report from the Land and Emigration Commissioners with respect to the opinions expressed by the colonial emigration officers, as to the eligibility of North American or salted vessels for the service of emigration, which was referred to me under your blank cover of the 30th June last for any observations I might wish to offer thereon, I have now the honour to submit the following remarks, and as the subject appears to have been finally disposed of by the Commissioners, I shall as far as possible confine myself to such observations only, as will justify the course I have taken, and the opinions I have expressed in reference to the ineligibility of these vessels.

2. I have caused to be compiled from the statistical records in my office, four tables assimilating as closely as possible, those on which the Commissioners have framed their conclusions, but differing in this respect, that they extend only over a period of three years, being the time during which I have presided over the management of this department, and including in the calculation the only double-decked ship despatched by the Commissioners to this colony, viz. the "Bejapore."

3. The first Table shows that during the last three years 56 vessels have been despatched by the Commissioners, containing on embarkation 17,560 souls. Of these, 8,886 were embarked on board 25 North American, or salted, and 8,674 in 31 British vessels. Out of these, 8,886, who embarked on board the North American ships, 380 died, while out of the 8,674, who came on board the British ships, only 207 died, making a per centage of 4·27 on the former, and 2·38 on the latter. Table 1.

4. Table 2, shows, that of the 56 ships before alluded to, 15 North American or salted ships, and one British vessel, were despatched from the Port of Liverpool, and 10 North American ships and 30 British ships from the port of London. The extent of mortality will here be found to be still against the North American ships, but more particularly on board those despatched from Liverpool. Table 2.

5. Table 3, shows similar results in reference to the North American ships, as those on which the Commissioners have based their conclusions, whilst the results with regard to the British ships are entirely different, and exhibit no increase of mortality, or justifies any conclusion, that British vessels, carrying 400 passengers, are not equally as eligible as vessels of less tonnage. Table 3.

6. Table 4, shows similar results in reference to the North American ships over 650 tons, while at the same time it shows a totally different one in regard to British vessels, and at once establishes the superiority of the one class over the other. Table 4.

7. The

NEW SOUTH WALES.

7. The statistics here exhibited may be taken as a fair exposition of the emigration of the three years over which they spread, and as the emigration during that period has been equally divided between all the vessels, no stronger test can be established, if the conclusions arrived at are to be grounded on mere statistical information.

8. In the third paragraph of the Commissioners' Report they observe, that of sickness not resulting in death they have no record sufficiently accurate to be available. On this point, therefore, the colonial emigration officers have a considerable advantage, for they have not only the opportunity of ascertaining the amount of sickness that may have occurred during the voyage, but they have also the means of testing the state of the vessel, and they can also judge of the appearance of the immigrants. These are advantages which ought to weigh considerably in the balance against mere statistics, and with only the evidence of an apparently eligible vessel, newly fitted and in good order, which may present a very different aspect after the embarkation of the emigrants, and their arrival at the port of destination after a four months' voyage.

9. The results of my experience in the emigration service justify me in stating the impressions that usually pervade the minds of the members of the Immigration Board on their visit of inspection on board a North American vessel.

10. The 'tween-decks are seldom dry, and the decks present the appearance of having undergone a continued course of scraping without being able to be brought to a state of cleanliness.

11. The atmosphere in the 'tween-decks is excessively sour, fetid, and offensive, and a dampness is observable not only on the sides of the vessel, but also on everything placed near them. The people, and more particularly the children, look pale and unhealthy, and their clothing assumes the same dirty and damp appearance as the 'tween-decks of the ship.

12. The after-part of the vessel is usually dark, without stern windows, and is only ventilated from the deck.

13. These are grave objections when compared with the dry, airy, and comfortable 'tween-decks of the first-class British vessels, and can only be duly estimated by those who have the opportunity of inspecting the ship after the expiration of a long voyage.

14. There is another point deserving of consideration in reference to the health of emigrants arriving by these vessels, as it not unfrequently happens that many are attacked after arrival with a low fever that assumes a typhoid character, and in many cases proves fatal. This description of disease was more conspicuously manifested in the case of the "Rajah-Gopaul," "Irene," "Argyle," and "Wilson Kennedy," which vessels arrived in the year 1852, and in the "America," "Java," "Harriet," and "Empire," which arrived last year.

15. The Commissioners very naturally remark, that if they were called upon to refuse employment to this class of vessels, the cost of emigration, which is already excessive, would be considerably enhanced and fall heavily on the funds of the colonies, which they are anxious to expend in the most economical way.

16. This is certainly a strong point, but when it is borne in mind that the return 1, appended to this report, clearly proves that the class of shipping referred to, which the Commissioners acknowledge to be inferior to British-built vessels, has commanded a higher rate of freight than that required by the superior class of vessels, it cannot but be presumed that the occupation is a profitable one, and one in which the Liverpool merchants would be unwilling to lose, even though they were obliged to place their vessels on an equal footing with the London shipowner. As long, however, as they are permitted to place themselves on the same footing with inferior ships, to vessels in every way more suitable, not only in build, but in equipment and manning, they will find no necessity to alter the construction of their ships, or cease to carry out the system of salting, which is still, in my opinion, most injurious to the health of the immigrants.

17. These remarks, as applicable to the colony of New South Wales, may, I think, be considered as an incontestable proof of the inferiority of North American vessels for the service of emigration, as compared with British-built ships, and much as I regret being obliged to differ from the opinion of the Land and Emigration Commissioners, I have the satisfaction of being borne out by the experience of my predecessor, who entertained similar opinions to my own, and also by the report of the Government resident at Moreton Bay, whose opinion in these matters is deserving of consideration, as well as that of the Emigration Board, one of whom is a medical man.

18. These few observations will, I feel sure, satisfy the Governor-general that I have had good grounds for taking objections to the employment of North American vessels, and although I am willing to admit that much improvement has taken place in the provisioning of these vessels, and great trouble has been taken by the Commissioners' officers to ensure such additional ventilation as will compensate to a considerable extent for the absence of stern ports, I cannot, however, but consider that such vessels are very objectionable for the emigration service, and that their employment can only be justified by the scarcity of others more suitable, and by the high rate of freights lately obtainable for the employment of shipping generally.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. H. Browne.*

ENCLOSURE referred to in the Immigration Agent's Letter to the Colonial Secretary of the 10th October 1854, No. 54/302.

TABLE 1.

Showing the Number of SHIPS and EMIGRANTS Despatched, and the COST per Statute Adult.

DESCRIPTION OF VESSEL.	Number of Ships.	Number of Emigrants Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Per Centage.	Cost per Statute Adult. £. s. d.
Salted, or North American Vessels - - - - -	25	8,886	380	4·27	16 8 2
Non-salted, or British Vessels - - - - -	31	8,674	207	2·38	15 19 2
	56	17,560	587	3·34	16 3 8

Immigration Offices, Sydney, 10 October 1854.

H. H. Browne,
Agent for Immigration.

TABLE 2.

Showing the Relative Number of SHIPS of each Class Fitted at *Liverpool* and *London*.

PORT.	NORTH AMERICAN.				BRITISH.				TOTAL.			
	No. of Ships.	No. Embarked.	No. of Deaths.	Per Centage.	No. of Ships.	No. Embarked.	No. of Deaths.	Per Centage.	No. of Ships.	No. Embarked.	No. of Deaths.	Per Centage.
Liverpool - -	15	5,483	279	5·08	1	270	13	4·81	16	5,753	292	5·07
London - -	10	3,403	101	2·96	30	8,404	194	2·30	40	11,807	295	2·49
	25	8,886	380	4·27	31	8,674	207	2·38	56	17,560	587	3·34

TABLE 3.

Showing the Increase of MORTALITY, according to the Increase of Numbers Embarked on each Ship.

Scale of Numbers Embarked in each Ship.	NORTH AMERICAN.				BRITISH.				TOTAL.			
	No. of Ships.	No. Embarked.	No. of Deaths.	Per Centage.	No. of Ships.	No. Embarked.	No. of Deaths.	Per Centage.	No. of Ships.	No. Embarked.	No. of Deaths.	Per Centage.
Not exceeding 200	2	181	1	·55	2	23	–	–	4	204	1	·49
201 to 300 - -	5	1,373	39	2·84	20	5,164	131	2·53	25	6,537	170	2·60
301 to 400 - -	11	3,725	134	3·59	5	1,765	26	1·47	16	5,490	160	2·91
401 to 500 - -	6	2,639	90	3·41	4	1,722	50	2·90	10	4,361	140	3·21
Above 500 - -	1	968	116	11·98	–	–	–	–	1	968	116	11·98
	25	8,886	380	4·27	31	8,674	207	2·38	56	17,560	587	3·34

Immigration Office, Sydney, 10 October 1854.

H. H. Browne,
Agent for Immigration.

TABLE 4.

Showing the Increase of Mortality, according to the Increased Tonnage of Ships.

SIZE OF SHIPS.	NORTH AMERICAN.				BRITISH.				TOTAL.			
	No. of Ships.	No. Embarked.	No. of Deaths.	Per Centage.	No. of Ships.	No. Embarked.	No. of Deaths.	Per Centage.	No. of Ships.	No. Embarked.	No. of Deaths.	Per Centage.
Over 650 tons -	21	7,864	354	4·50	17	5,373	115	2·14	38	13,237	469	3·54
Under 650 tons -	4	1,022	26	2·54	14	3,301	92	2·78	18	4,323	118	2·72
	25	8,886	380	4·27	31	8,674	207	2·38	56	17,560	587	3·34

Immigration Office, Sydney, 10 October 1854.

H. H. Browne,
Agent for Immigration.

— No. 6. —

No. 6.
Governor-General Sir C. A. FitzRoy to Sir G. Grey.
28 December 1854.

(No. 174.)

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *C. A. FitzRoy* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 28 December 1854.
(Received, 17 March 1855.)

Sir,

Referring to my despatch of the 14th of last month, No. 164,* intimating the intended remittance to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners of a further sum of 40,000 *l.* for the general service of emigration, making, with a former amount of 50,000 *l.*, 90,000 *l.* on account of the 100,000 *l.* recommended by the Legislative Council to be forwarded, as stated in my despatch † No. 98, of the 21st July last, I have the honour to inform you, with reference to my despatch No. 173, of this date, notifying that the intention to forward specie by the "Calliope" had been relinquished, that a remittance will be made to the Commissioners by the Colonial Secretary of this Government by the present opportunity, by bills of an amount of 50,000 *l.*, being the 40,000 *l.* before proposed to be sent, with an addition of 10,000 *l.* to complete the sum of 100,000 *l.* already mentioned. Of this 50,000 *l.*, the sum of 30,000 *l.* is a payment out of the ordinary territorial revenue, and the remaining 20,000 *l.* is derived from the collections made by the agent for immigration in repayment of the passages of immigrants under the Assisted Immigrants' Act,‡ 16 Victoria, No. 42.

2. A remittance of 16,000 *l.* will also be made in Bills by this opportunity to the Commissioners for purposes of emigration, being 9,487 *l.* 6 *s.* for passage-money paid in the colony under the Immigration Remittance Regulations; 5,453 *l.* for passages of immigrants nominated under the Land and Immigration Deposit Regulations; and 1,059 *l.* 14 *s.* to meet contingencies.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Chas. A. FitzRoy.*

* Page 3.

† *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42. Session 1855, page 23.

‡ *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 1001, Session 1853.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

— No. 7. —

No. 7.
Governor-General Sir C. A. FitzRoy to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.
30 December 1854.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *C. A. FitzRoy* to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies; dated Government House, Sydney, New South Wales, 30 December 1854. (No. 180.)

(Received, 7 April 1855.)

(Answered, No. 35, 7 June 1855, page 30.)

18 Victoria.—No. 29.

An Act to amend the Assisted Immigration Act.

"THIS measure was brought in by the Government for the purposes of amending the Act of 1852, 16 Victoria, No. 42, in the manner suggested in the Report of the Land and Emigration Commissioners, which formed the enclosure to the Duke of Newcastle's despatch* of the 23d September 1853, No. 126.

"The first clause leaves it to the discretion of the Secretary of State or the local Government to enforce the Act of 1852; and the 2d and 3d sections exempt unmarried females from the operation of that Act.

"The 3d clause of the former Act is also altered by the 4th clause of the present, in the manner suggested by the Commissioners, and the form of indenture has been made consonant with the body of the Act; but the period allowed to the emigrant to make a voluntary engagement is reduced from 14 to seven days; and at the same time it is rendered competent to him, with the consent of his employer, to engage for a less period than two years.

"The 8th clause provides for the recovery by the employer of the balance of the passage-money still due to him, in case of mutual abandonment of the indenture, or of misconduct on the part of the immigrant.

"The 9th clause renders persons who improperly employ assisted immigrants liable for the amount of the passage-money due; and the 10th clause extends to immigrants wilfully evading the taking of service without payment of passage-money the same punishment as the law imposes for absconding from hired service."

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 436, Session 1854, Part I., page 55.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Encl. in No. 7.

By his Excellency Sir *Charles Augustus FitzRoy*, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Companion of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Governor-General of all Her Majesty's Australian Possessions, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Territory of New South Wales and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council.

No. XXIX.

AN ACT to Amend the Assisted Immigration Act. [Assented to, 30th November 1854.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is found to be necessary to amend in several particulars the Act of Council, 16 Victoria, No. 42: Be it therefore enacted, by His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

Sect. 1 of 16 Vict., No. 42, to be acted upon or not as Governor or Secretary of State may deem expedient.

I. So much of the first section of the Act of Council passed in the sixteenth year of Her Majesty's reign, number forty-two, as purports to make the provisions thereof imperative, is hereby repealed; and in lieu thereof be it enacted, that it shall be in the discretion of the Governor of this colony, and of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, to cause the said provisions or any part thereof to be applied and enforced, or not to be applied or enforced, according as circumstances may from time to time seem to the said Governor or to the said Secretary of State to require.

Act not to apply to females.

II. So much of the first section of the said recited Act as relates to unmarried females shall be and is hereby repealed.

Notes already given by employers of female immigrants for balances of passage-money cancelled. No deductions to be made from wages

III. All obligations by which employers of female immigrants shall have bound themselves before the passing of this Act to pay to the immigration agent the respective balances of the passage-money of such immigrant, shall be and are hereby cancelled; and no such employer shall be entitled to deduct from the wages of any such immigrant any larger sum than he shall already have actually paid for her to the said immigration agent, anything

Except for sums already paid by employer.

anything to the contrary thereof in the agreement of the hiring of such immigrant notwithstanding.

Sect. 3 of 16 Vict., No. 42, not to apply to immigrants entering into voluntary engagements with masters who will repay the Government.

IV. The provisions in the third section of the said Act shall not apply to any immigrant who shall within a period prescribed by the immigration agent of the colony, not exceeding seven days, voluntarily take service with some employer in the colony who shall be approved of by the said immigration agent, and who shall forthwith pay to the said agent one-half of the sum so set against the immigrant's name, and bind himself to pay the residue thereof to the said immigration agent for the time being, within twelve calendar months or any shorter period of the date of such employment.

Contracts of service may be for less period than two years.

V. Any such voluntary engagement or any contract of service made and signed under the third section of the said recited Act, or any indenture entered into under the ninth section thereof, may be made for a less period than two years, if the employer shall consent thereto, and the immigrant bound thereby shall submit to proportionate deductions from his wages, in repayment of the amount of passage-money paid by such employer to the said immigration agent on his account.

Form of indenture amended.

VI. And whereas it is necessary that the form of indenture required by the first section of the said recited Act should be amended, so as to make it in accordance with the provisions hereof; be it enacted, that every such indenture shall be in the form or to the effect set forth in the Schedule hereto.

Immigrants and apprentices contracting or bound under Act entitled to all the rights and remedies of ordinary servants and apprentices.

VII. Every immigrant bound by any contract of service or indenture of apprenticeship under the provisions of the said recited Act, or of this Act, shall be entitled to all the same rights, remedies, and proceedings against his employer or master in respect of any violation of the provisions of such contract of service or indenture of apprenticeship, or in respect of any misconduct of such employer or master, as any ordinary servant or apprentice within the colony.

Upon due dismissal or mutual abandonment of contract of service, balance of passage-money to be a debt due to the employer.

VIII. If any immigrant who shall have engaged with or have been bound to any employer under the said recited Act or this Act, shall so misconduct himself during the term of his engagement as to render himself liable according to the ordinary rules of law to be dismissed from his service, or if the said immigrant and employer shall mutually agree to terminate the engagement of service before the expiration thereof, the balance of his passage-money which shall not then have been repaid by him out of his wages shall be a debt due by him to his employer, and may be recovered by such employer as money paid to his use.

Money due to the Government recoverable from persons unduly employing assisted immigrants.

IX. If any person shall employ, retain, harbour, or conceal any immigrant of any of the classes or descriptions mentioned in the said recited Act who shall not have repaid or procured to be repaid the amount due for his passage-money, and shall not have taken service with an employer who shall have paid or secured payment thereof to the said immigration agent, he shall be liable to pay to the said immigration agent the amount so due for such passage-money, and the same may be recovered in a summary way before any two justices of the peace; provided, that if upon the hearing of any demand under this section, the person so employing, retaining, harbouring, or concealing any such immigrant shall prove to the satisfaction of the justices hearing the same, that he has not been guilty of undue negligence, such payment shall not be awarded.

Punishment, 16 Vict., No. 42, Sect. 11, for absconding from service to apply to persons wilfully evading the taking of service without repayment of passage-money.

X. The provisions contained in the 11th section of the said recited Act for the punishment of immigrants who shall abscond from the service of employers whom they shall have contracted to serve, shall apply to any immigrant who, not having paid or procured to be paid the amount due for his passage, shall, by absconding or otherwise, wilfully evade the taking of service under the said recited Act or this Act.

Charles Nicholson, Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 24th day of November 1854.

Wm. Macpherson, Clerk of the Council.

In the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, I assent to this Act.

Chas. A. FitzRoy, Governor-General.

Government House, Sydney, 30 November 1854.

SCHEDULE REFERRED TO.

WE, whose names are severally hereunder written, in consideration of a passage being provided for us and (as the case may be) our respective wives and families, by Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, at the expense of the colony of New South Wales, severally bind ourselves either to repay to the immigration agent of that colony, for the time being, the sums set against our respective names, in sterling British money, within such period as the said immigration agent shall prescribe, not exceeding seven days after our arrival in the said colony, or to take service with any employer in the said colony, with whom we may

may agree during that period, and who shall be approved of by the said immigration agent, and shall forthwith pay to him one-half of the sum set against our names respectively, and shall bind himself to pay the residue thereof to the immigration agent for the time being, in 12 calendar months, or within any shorter period of the date of such employment. And in default of our so making any such agreement with the consent of the said immigration agent, and in the form prescribed by law or the regulations of the Government, we hereby agree and bind ourselves to take such other employment, and to accept such wages, as the said immigration agent may procure for us respectively, and we hereby respectively give him full power and authority with or without our future consent, to sign on our behalf a contract of service with any employer whom he may select on our behalf, for the term of two years or such shorter term as shall be agreed upon, between the said immigration agent and such employer, to be computed from the date of such contract, it being always understood that any such employer shall be at liberty to deduct from any wages that may accrue or become due to us respectively during the said term, at the rate of one-eighth (or a larger proportion in case the term of service shall be less than two years), of the sums so set against our respective names, in each three calendar months of such service; and further that at any time after the expiration of the first year thereof, if such engagement shall be for more than one year, we shall be respectively at liberty, on giving our respective employers three calendar months' previous notice, to put an end to such contract and service by paying up the balance of the said sums then due by us for our passage.

— No. 8. —

(No. 189.)

No. 8.
Governor-General Sir C. A. FitzRoy to Sir G. Grey.
31 December 1854.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *C. A. FitzRoy* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 31 December 1854.
(Received, 7 April 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 29, 4 June 1855, p. 29.)

WITH reference to my despatch, No. 164,* of the 14th of last month, in which I reported the completion of the remittance to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners of the sum of 100,000 *l.* promised by my despatch of the 21st of July 1854, No. 98, I have now the honour to transmit to you a copy of an address from the Legislative Council, presented to me in the session which has recently closed, recommending that a further sum of 100,000 *l.* should be remitted to the Commissioners, so as to reach England by the month of June in the present year, for the purpose of enabling them to keep up a large and uninterrupted supply of labour; and to inform you that, concurring in the opinion expressed by the Council that the continued prosperity of the colony in a great degree depends upon such a supply being kept up, I have felt it my duty to give my sanction to the measure proposed in their address.

* Page 3.

2. This sum will accordingly be remitted to the Commissioners by future opportunities; but, in order that it may be in their possession by the time suggested in the address, it will be necessary to raise by means of debentures an amount of at least 50,000 *l.*

3. I have accordingly given directions for tenders for debentures to this extent to be advertised for, feeling that, as observed by the Legislative Council in their address, the resort to a further loan for such sum as may be requisite for completing the remittance recommended therein, will be warranted by the increasing resources and population of the colony, and the probable augmentation thereby of the revenue, on which the loans for immigration are secured.

4. In reporting this measure for your approval, it is proper to add, that I have not been unmindful of the recommendation contained in the despatch of the Duke of Newcastle, No. 26,† of the 14th of March 1854, that the supply of funds for emigration purposes should be confined to the amount of revenue really available for that object. This despatch was laid before the Legislative Council, and the Select Committee on Immigration in the last session particularly directed their attention to it before framing their report, in accordance with which the Council voted the address now transmitted.

† *Vide* Papers presented August 1854, Part I. page 69.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Chas. A. FitzRoy.*

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Encl. in No. 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

To His Excellency Sir *Charles Augustus FitzRoy*, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Companion of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Governor-general of all Her Majesty's Australian Possessions, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Territory of New South Wales and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the members of the Legislative Council of New South Wales, in Council assembled, beg respectfully to communicate to your Excellency the following resolutions adopted this day by the Council, and to request, in accordance with the fourth of them, that your Excellency will be pleased to cause them to be carried into effect; viz.

1. That this Council, after maturely considering the subject of immigration in all its bearings, is of opinion that the continued prosperity of this colony in a great degree depends upon a large and uninterrupted supply of labour.

2. That the increasing resources and population of the colony, and the probability of a large and progressive increase of the land revenue, in the opinion of this Council fully justify the policy of borrowing on the security of that revenue, the funds necessary to keep up such supply.

3. That, in the opinion of this Council, the further sum of 100,000 *l.* should be remitted for that important object, so as to reach England by the month of June 1855, and that such portion thereof as may be necessary be raised on the before-mentioned security.

4. That the foregoing resolutions be embodied in an address to his Excellency the Governor-general, with a request that he will cause them to be carried into effect.

(signed) *Charles Nicholson*, Speaker.

Legislative Council Chamber, Sydney,
24 November 1854.

— No. 9. —

(No. 195.)

No. 9. Governor-General Sir C. A. FitzRoy to Sir G. Grey. 31 December 1854.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *C. A. FitzRoy* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 31 December 1854.

Sir, (Received, 7 April 1855.)

* Page 3.

With reference to my despatch, No. 164,* of the 14th ultimo, reporting the completion of a remittance of 100,000 *l.* to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, I have the honour to recommend, in compliance with a suggestion made by the agent for immigration in this colony, that the same proportion of this sum, namely, one-fifth, or 20,000 *l.* should be appropriated by the Commissioners for Emigration direct to Moreton Bay, as in the case of sums previously forwarded; and also, that the same proportion may be so expended out of the 100,000 *l.*, which in my despatch † of this date, No. 189, I apprised you it is intended to remit by the month of June next.

† Page 13.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Chas. A. FitzRoy.*

— No. 10. —

(No. 4.)

No. 10. Governor-General Sir C. A. FitzRoy to Sir G. Grey. 15 January 1855.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *C. A. FitzRoy* to the Right Honourable. Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 15 January 1855.

Sir, (Received, 7 April 1855.)

* Page 3.

With reference to my despatch,* No. 165, of the 15th November last, reporting the arrangements made for giving effect in this colony, on the arrival of immigrants, to the measures adopted by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, in pursuance of the Assisted Immigrants' Act, 16 Vict., No. 42,

I have

I have the honour to transmit for your information a return prepared by the agent for immigration for the passages of assisted immigrants, from the date of the arrival of the first vessel under the new system to the 12th instant, amounting to 26,999 *l.* This amount, it will be observed, includes sums received in promissory notes; some of which, having been given by employers of female immigrants for balances of passage-money, will be cancelled under the Act (mentioned in my despatch above referred to, as then under the consideration of the Legislative Council), reported in my despatch, No. 180,* of the 30th of last month, and which relieves such immigrants from any deduction from their wages, on account of their passages, except for sums, already paid in money, by their employers.

* Page 11.

2. Notwithstanding the sums which have up to the present time been received by the Government in repayment of the passage-money of immigrants, the immigration agent finds considerable difficulty in carrying into effect the arrangements for placing them in situations in pursuance of the provisions of the Assisted Immigrants' Act; and the receipts from this source for the service of immigration, cannot therefore be calculated upon with certainty. It seems likely also, that in order to prevent their remaining disengaged, at a large expense to the colony, for any length of time after their arrival, it may become expedient shortly to make some modifications in the existing regulations on the subject, which, should this be the case, will of course be duly communicated for your information and approval.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Chas. A. FitzRoy.*

Enclosure in No. 10.

Encl. in No. 10.

STATEMENT of Sums received by *Hutchinson H. Browne*, Esq., for the Passages to the Colony of Assisted Immigrants, from the 11th of July 1854 to the 12th of January 1855, under the Act of Council, 16 Victoria, No. 42.

Date of Receipt.	NAME OF SHIP.	Date of Arrival.	Cash.			Promissory Notes.			TOTAL.		
			£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
11 July 1854	Sabrina - -	10 July 1854	508	–	–	210	–	–	718	–	–
to	Plantagenet -	29 „ „	1,814	–	–	518	–	–	2,332	–	–
12 Jan. 1855.	Araminta - -	29 „ „	1,223	–	–	367	–	–	1,590	–	–
	Lady Elgin -	4 Aug. „	1,266	–	–	564	–	–	1,830	–	–
	Genghis Khan -	14 „ „	1,628	10	–	1,110	10	–	2,739	–	–
	Monsoon - -	14 „ „	1,298	10	–	966	10	–	2,265	–	–
	Tantivy - -	3 Sept. „	1,463	–	–	302	–	–	1,765	–	–
	Columbia - -	20 „ „	1,726	–	–	606	–	–	2,332	–	–
	China - -	24 „ „	790	–	–	328	–	–	1,118	–	–
	Lady Ann -	29 „ „	1,572	–	–	259	–	–	1,831	–	–
	Caroline - -	13 Oct. „	478	–	–	186	–	–	664	–	–
	Anglo-Saxon -	21 „ „	1,224	–	–	258	–	–	1,482	–	–
	Stamboul - -	31 „ „	517	–	–	135	–	–	652	–	–
	Patrician - -	31 „ „	380	–	–	94	–	–	474	–	–
	Ellenborough -	31 „ „	1,048	–	–	771	–	–	1,819	–	–
	Kate - -	7 Nov. „	818	–	–	210	–	–	1,028	–	–
	Lady Kennaway	8 Dec. „	128	–	–	36	–	–	164	–	–
	St. Helena -	10 „ „	756	–	–	274	–	–	1,030	–	–
	David M'Iver -	18 „ „	938	–	–	76	–	–	1,014	–	–
	Waconeta - -	2 Jan. 1855	118	–	–	34	–	–	152	–	–
		£.	19,694	–	–	7,305	–	–	26,999	–	–

Amounting to £. 26,999 sterling.

H. H. Browne, Agent for Immigration.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Despatches from Governor-General Sir W. Denison.

— No. 11. —

No. 11. Governor-General Sir W. Denison to Sir G. Grey. 19 February 1855.

(No. 15.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 19 February 1855.

Sir, (Received, 22 May 1855.)

* Page 13.

IN a despatch, No. 189,* dated 31 December 1854, my predecessor informed you that he had felt it his duty to give his sanction to a proposal conveyed to him in an address from the Legislative Council, to the effect that a further sum of 100,000 *l.* should be transmitted to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners for the purpose of enabling them to keep up a large and uninterrupted supply of labour to this colony. I have the honour now to report that the first instalment of this sum, amounting to 10,000 *l.*, has been forwarded by the present opportunity to the Commissioners, in the shape of bills upon Her Majesty's Treasury, and that a further remittance of 40,000 *l.* will probably be made in the course of the next month.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

— No. 12. —

No. 12. Governor-General Sir W. Denison to Sir G. Grey. 2 March 1855.

(No. 23.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 2 March 1855.
(Received, 22 May 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 50, 19 July 1855, page 31.)

Enclosure 1, 15 January 1855. Enclosure 2, 5 February 1855.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith for transmission to the Land and Emigration Commissioners the report of the agent for immigration upon the arrival of the "Lady Kennaway" immigration ship, as also the report of the Immigration Board with reference to the irregularities alleged to have occurred on board of this ship.

2. I beg to call your attention to the concluding paragraph of the latter report, and to express my hope that instructions may be issued to the Land and Emigration Commissioners to discontinue from henceforward this description of emigration for the reasons therein stated.

Enclosure 3.

3. I would also beg to call your attention to the enclosed return, showing the number, sex, religion, and country of the immigrants who arrived in New South Wales during the year 1854, and to request that instructions may issue to the Land and Emigration Commissioners to forward a larger proportion of English and Scotch emigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 12.

The Agent for Immigration to the Colonial Secretary, reporting the arrival of the Immigrant Ship "Lady Kennaway," and the disposal of the Immigrants by that vessel.

(No. 55/26.)

Sir, Immigration Office, Sydney, 15 January 1855.

WITH reference to Mr. Walcott's letter to you of the 15th August last, announcing the despatch of the immigrant ship "Lady Kennaway," I do myself the honour to report the arrival of that vessel on the 8th ultimo. I enclose a list of the births and deaths which occurred on the passage, and an abstract return showing the manner in which the immigrants have been disposed of.

2. The vessel was in a dirty state on her arrival in Sydney, a circumstance that I cannot but attribute to the want of authority on the part of the surgeon, in consequence of his being a person who did not command either the confidence or respect of the immigrants under his charge.

3. At the usual inspection held by the Board on board this vessel, the immigrants made no complaints against either the master or surgeon, there nevertheless appeared to the Board to be an evident concealment, or perhaps more properly, a disinclination to say anything against the surgeon on the part of the married people. It was moreover quite clear, that he was in no way respected, and the Board felt satisfied that there were just grounds for complaint, which however, now that they had arrived in safety at their destination, they did not wish to bring forward.

4. The immigrants by this vessel consisted principally of single females, who had, previous to their embarkation, been inmates of the Union workhouse in Cork, and they appeared to have been carefully selected, as when compared with those who have lately been received from that part of the United Kingdom, they were unquestionably superior, not only in personal cleanliness, but also in the qualifications calculated to fit them for service.

5. These girls were in this instance placed under the control of Mr. Parker, a Roman-catholic clergyman, who had been chaplain to the Union of which they were inmates for about three years, and owing probably to the attention bestowed on them by him, they conducted themselves during the voyage with propriety, and upon their arrival here were placed in service at very remunerative wages. I feel however compelled to remark, that as there is and has been for some time past a very great disinclination on the part of the colonists to receive into their service those who have been inmates of the Irish Unions, it is a source of regret, that in the absence of any direct authority from this Government, the Commissioners should have authorised passages to be granted to these people, unless they had been enabled to do so, upon some such favourable terms as would have justified them in deviating from the ordinary course.

6. The other immigrants were of a good class, but were subject to some difficulty in obtaining employment, as the public could not at first be made to believe, but that they, as well as the single females were also from the unions.

7. The religious instructor, Mr. Parker, immediately on the arrival of the vessel, waited upon me, and complained that the surgeon-superintendent, Mr. Magee, was a person addicted to intemperate habits, and that in consequence of his frequent indulgences in that respect, the vessel had fallen into a loose state of discipline, which extended so far as to cause irregularities on the part of the officers of the ship, in connexion with some of the single females.

8. This complaint has been the subject of an inquiry before the Immigration Board, and the result of the investigation will shortly be reported for the Governor-general's information. I am however authorised by the Board to state, that they do not consider the irregularities are of sufficient importance to justify any exception being taken to the charter-party, and I have therefore added the usual certificate, and herewith forward it for the counter-signature of the Governor-general.

9. The "Lady Kennaway," is a compact little vessel, is well ventilated, and although her 'tween-decks are not lofty, they are still roomy and airy. She is therefore a suitable vessel for the conveyance of emigrants.

10. The cooking stove was erected on the quarter-deck, an arrangement of which I entirely disapprove, as it is the means of filling the after-part of the vessel with smoke and soot, and also of bringing the married and single male immigrants in contact with the single females, a course of proceeding that should at all times be avoided if possible.

11. The surgeon-superintendent reports that no diseases of any consequence occurred on board during the voyage.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. H. Browne.*

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Enclosure 2, in No. 12.

Encl. 2, in No. 12. REPORT of the Immigration Board on the Evidence taken before them in respect to the Irregularities alleged to have occurred on board the Immigrant Ship "Lady Kennaway."

THE Board having met in pursuance to summons for the purpose of considering the complaints made against the surgeon-superintendent and master of the immigrant ship "Lady Kennaway" by the Rev. Mr. Parker, the religious instructor on board that vessel, proceeded, in their presence, to examine Mr. Parker and several of the female immigrants in support of the charges he had brought against them.

2. The Board having heard the evidence adduced by Mr. Parker, called on the master for his explanation, who, in reply, handed in a written statement, in which he denied the accuracy of the complaints, and introduced several of the married immigrants who had acted as constables on the voyage to support his case. The surgeon preferred making a verbal statement, which forms a portion of the evidence attached hereto, and declined calling any additional evidence to that which was adduced by Captain Young.

3. As in most cases of this nature which the Board are called upon to investigate, a considerable measure of ill-feeling appeared to have been generated, and the statements of the witnesses are consequently very frequently highly coloured, thereby attaching a degree of importance to them to which they are not really entitled.

4. In the particular instance under consideration, it was natural to expect that, in consequence of the previous connexion that had existed between the Rev. Mr. Parker and the female immigrants by the "Lady Kennaway" in the Union workhouse at Cork, wherein he had filled the office of chaplain for a period of four years, he should have been able to exercise a much greater control over these girls than had he been a perfect stranger to them upon receiving his appointment on board the vessel; and seeing, moreover, as they did, that no cordiality of feeling existed between him and the surgeon, they very naturally supported their own priest, and took every opportunity of annoying the surgeon, and showing him that they had no esteem for his person or respect for his authority.

5. The Board consider this state of things to have been attributable principally to the conduct of the surgeon himself, as, had he joined with Mr. Parker in the first instance in rigidly upholding the regulations of the Commissioners, and paid more attention than he did to his own conduct, the girls would never have ventured to insult him or to refuse submission to his authority.

6. The charge of inebriety preferred against him has been proved to the perfect satisfaction of the Board; his frequent indulgences in that respect were spoken of by most of the witnesses called by the complainant, and also by two of those who were examined for the defence. It is not even distinctly denied in his own explanation to the Board.

7. Under these circumstances the Board are of opinion that the surgeon is guilty of having entirely neglected his duty, and that, moreover, he is not free from blame in regard to his treatment of the two girls who died of consumption. They are further of opinion that, for whatever irregularities which may have occurred on board, he is chiefly answerable, and that he is therefore evidently a very unfit man to be again employed in the service of the Commissioners. They consider that he has, by his neglectful conduct, disentitled himself to any claim for his gratuity, but they recommend that, in consideration of the helpless position in which he would be placed in a strange land if left wholly without means, that one-half only should be forfeited.

8. The charge made against Captain Young, of taking liberties with the single females by pulling off their blankets while in bed, the Board do not consider to be proved; neither do they feel that he in any way countenanced the intimacy that took place between his son, the chief officer, and the matron. The Board feel that, in consequence of the want of management on the part of the surgeon, many of the girls remained in their beds until a late hour of the day, and that the disagreeable duty of turning them on deck, which was absolutely requisite to promote health, devolved upon the captain, so that thereby a bad feeling was created amongst the girls towards him.

9. The charge of intimacy on the part of the first and second mates with the matron and sub-matron, is to a certain extent proved, but the Board do not consider, nor does any supposition exist in Mr. Parker's mind, that it was of an improper nature. It appears also that when the subject was brought under Captain Young's notice, he immediately remonstrated with his son, and there is no evidence to show that the intimacy was again renewed. The bad example, however, set by a person in Mr. Young's position the Board consider should not be overlooked, and they are therefore of opinion that he ought to be deprived of his gratuity.

10. The Board also consider that the second officer ought to be reprimanded, and cautioned as to his future conduct when holding an official appointment on board an emigrant ship.

11. Great

NEW SOUTH WALES.

11. Great importance has been attached by Mr. Parker to a scene that occurred on the 27th of November last, upon which occasion he states that the girls were afraid to go below at their usual time, in consequence of some apprehension that an attack on the part of the crew was contemplated upon him. It appears to the Board that the alarm was quite unfounded, and that the arming of Mr. Parker and one of the emigrants was a foolish step, and one the necessity of which could not have existed had any unanimity of feeling existed between Mr. Parker and his flock and the other authorities of the vessel.

12. In conclusion, the Board would observe, that the manner in which some of the single females conducted themselves towards the surgeon and the captain was highly reprehensible, and although Mr. Parker selected such as he considered at the time to be the best of those who were inmates of the workhouse, he had reason to alter his opinion respecting several of them before the termination of the voyage.

13. Orphan immigration having been so distasteful to the inhabitants of this colony, the Board did not contemplate the arrival of any fresh drafts of that class of immigrants. This feeling against them still exists, and the Board feel that they should ill perform their duty, were they not to bring this fact pointedly under the notice of his Excellency the Governor-general, with a recommendation that instructions be given to the Commissioners not to continue this description of emigration, it being most unsuitable to the requirements of the colony, and at the same time distasteful to the majority of the people.

(signed) *H. H. Browne.*
Gother K. Mann.
Haynes Gibbes Alleyne.

Immigration Office, Sydney,
5 February 1855.

Enclosure 3, in No. 12.

RETURN showing the Number, Sex, Religion, and Country, of the ASSISTED IMMIGRANTS who Arrived during the Year 1854.

From what Country Emigrating.	Church of England.		Church of Scotland.		Wesleyan Methodists.		Other Protestants.		Roman Catholics.		Jews.		TOTAL.		Grand TOTAL
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
England - - - - -	1,531	991	3	9	151	101	113	97	29	30	–	1	1,827	1,229	3,056
Scotland - - - - -	30	29	289	206	–	–	246	133	44	29	–	–	609	397	1,006
Ireland - - - - -	213	280	12	12	4	8	43	35	964	1,655	–	–	1,236	1,990	3,226
Other Countries - - -	4	6	1	2	–	–	–	1	2	5	–	–	7	14	21
TOTAL - - -	1,778	1,306	305	229	155	109	402	266	1,039	1,719	–	1	3,679	3,630	7,309

Immigration Office, Sydney,
26 February 1855.

H. H. Browne, Agent for Immigration.

— No. 13. —

(No. 41.)

No. 13.
Governor General Sir W. Denison to Sir G. Grey.
5 April 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey,* Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 5 April 1855.

Sir,

(Received, 2 July 1855.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 18,* containing the copy of a report from the Land and Emigration Commissioners, on the subject of a correspondence between their office and Mr. Crawford, the secretary of the Emigration Society at Glasgow.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Session 1855, page 29.

2. In this despatch you have pointed out the fact, that serious evils have been experienced from the dealings of private persons under the apparent sanction of the Government with emigrants in humble circumstances; and have informed me that Her Majesty's Government cannot sanction the employment of irresponsible agents for the collection of emigrants intended to be despatched by the Board of Emigration.

Enclosure 1.
Enclosure 2.

3. The subject was brought by me under the consideration of the Executive Council, in connexion with certain papers (copies of which are enclosed), addressed by Mr. Crawford to myself and to the Executive Council, and a communication has by the Council been addressed to Mr. Crawford, informing him that passages cannot be provided for any more of the members of the society on the conditions stated in the letter of the Colonial Secretary, dated 20th March 1854; and that no engagements can be entered into with any societies in the United Kingdom for promoting emigration, which would in any way interfere with the discretion vested in the Land and Emigration Commissioners.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 13.

Encl. 1, in No. 13. UNTO His Excellency the Governor-General, and the Honourable the Executive Council of New South Wales.

The Memorial of *John Crawford*, of 65, Jamaica-street, Glasgow, Secretary to the "Scottish Australian Emigration Society."

Humbly showeth,

THAT an earnest desire exists amongst all descriptions of working men in the west of Scotland, artizans in towns, hand-loom and factory weavers, country mechanics, agricultural labourers, and farm and domestic servants, to emigrate to the British colonies in Australia; where they believe a greater demand exists for their services—labour is more liberally rewarded—and they would have better opportunities of earning a comfortable subsistence for themselves and wives and children, than in this country. That in numerous instances, members of families who have gone to Australia, have written home representing how well off they are, and urging their friends and relations to use every exertion to be enabled to join them.

To meet this desire on the part of working men, the Scottish Australian Emigration Society was established in February 1853, and since then, through its agency, or "under its auspices," about 400 adult members including several hand-loom weavers and their families, have been enabled to emigrate to New South Wales, the greater number of whom sailed from Birkenhead last month (November 1854), in the "Anna" and "Nepaul," arrangements having been made with Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners for their passages in these ships.

That this society has been supported entirely by the enrolment fees and contributions of its members, to the advantage of the Colonial Land Fund, which has been saved "selecting agents'" commission, cost of "schedules," correspondence with individual applicants, &c., &c., all of which have been borne by the society, the Commissioners having refused to bear any part of the expense thereof.

That local emigration societies have been formed in different towns and villages in the west of Scotland. Some of these intend to unite with this society, while others are in frequent correspondence with the memorialist, relative to the object they have in view.

That new members are daily joining this society, and including old members who have been unable to pay the deposit required by the Commissioners, there are at present about 300 adult members; and by the month of March or April next (1855), the memorialist does not doubt there will be above 1,000 adults, comprising all classes of working men desirous of emigrating, and ready to embark in the ensuing spring or summer.

That these parties find, that the existing regulations of Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners operate, not as aids, but as hindrances to emigration; and it is for the purpose of pointing out these impediments, that the memorialist takes the liberty of now addressing your Excellency and Executive Council, in the hope of getting them removed.

By the existing regulations of the Commissioners, applicants for passages to New South Wales are divided into three classes or grades:—

1st. "*Eligible.*"—Under this head are comprehended artizans in towns, who do not come under the description of "country mechanics," or "agricultural labourers," or "farm," or "domestic servants," such as weavers, tailors, shoemakers, bakers, moulders, printers, painters, glaziers, joiners, cabinet-makers, and others, who have been previously enrolled as members of this society, and who have been declared "eligible" by his Excellency the Governor-general's letter addressed to the Committee in March 1854. From this class deposits of 5 *l.* each male adult, 5 *l.* each female adult, whether married or single, and 5 *l.* every two children, are required, besides bonds for 10 *l.*, payable in the colony, by each male, and each single female adult.

Note.—A married man with a wife and two children, belonging to this class, is thus required to pay a deposit of 15 *l.* in this country, and 10 *l.* in the colony, making 25 *l.* in all; being 10 *l.* more than emigrants of the "More Eligible," and 12 *l.* more than those of the "Most Eligible" class.

2d. "*More*

2d. "*More Eligible.*"—Masons, carpenters, wheelwrights, blacksmiths, brick-makers, gardeners, &c., are comprehended under this class. Applicants belonging to this class are required to pay 5 *l.* each male adult, and each unmarried female adult, and to give bonds for 10 *l.*, payable in the colony—wives and children getting free passages.

3d. "*Most Eligible.*"—Agricultural labourers, shepherds, farm, and domestic servants, constitute the members of this class, from whom deposits of only 1 *l.* each male and unmarried female adult, and bonds for 12 *l.* payable in the colony, are required—wives and children getting free passages.

Now, by the Colonial Act, 16 Vict., No. 42, the highest payment required from any immigrant is 15 *l.*; and if he deposit 5 *l.* in this country, and give a bond for 10 *l.*, he is held to satisfy the requirements of the Act, his wife and children getting free passages.

But instead of observing this Act, the Commissioners, as respects members of this society of the first or simply "eligible" class, require a married man with a family to pay 5 *l.* for himself, 5 *l.* for his wife, and 5 *l.* for his two children, thus making the deposit three times greater than that of the second class, and actually 15 times greater than that of the third, and to give a bond for 10 *l.* over and above. A married shepherd is asked for a deposit in this country of 1 *l.* A married weaver is required to pay 15 *l.*; and yet the weaver is not going to Australia as a weaver, he is going out to be employed as a shepherd. Weavers, as all accounts testify, make excellent shepherds, and their wives and children are as valuable acquisitions to the colony as the wives and children of shepherds, whether from the highlands or lowlands, possibly can be. Why, then, should there be so unreasonable and arbitrary a distinction betwixt the two? Why should weavers, who of all classes of working men in this country can pay least, be required to pay most? Why should their wives and children not get free passages as well as other wives and children? Shepherds are infinitely abler to pay than weavers; and yet weavers are charged just 15 times more than shepherds. This arbitrary exaction is a virtual exclusion of weavers from the privilege of assisted passages. In 1852, weavers paid a deposit of 2 *l.* only. Why, in 1854, should they be charged 15 *l.*? Are they not as "eligible" now, as they were then?

If it be supposed, weavers as a class, are given to politics and are factiously inclined, there could not be a greater mistake. Treat weavers with ordinary justice, and you soon make them loyal and contented subjects. Weavers are proving their loyalty to their Sovereign every day by enlisting as soldiers. On the heights of Alma, Paisley weavers fought and bled, and upheld the honour of Her Majesty's arms and the ancient valour of Scotland. If fit to fight the battles of their country, why should they be reckoned unfit to wage war with the wilderness, or fight the "battle of life" in Australia or any other British colony?

To correct these anomalies and hindrances to emigration, the memorialist would suggest that the arbitrary classification of the Commissioners should be entirely done away with, as regards the members of this society, and all applicants admitted to the privilege of assisted passages, at the uniform rate of 5 *l.* each male adult, and 1 *l.* each unmarried female adult, they giving bonds for 10 *l.* and 14 *l.* respectively, payable within two years after arrival in the colony; wives and children under 14 years of age, getting free passages.

This would not merely simplify, but would promote emigration to Australia. It would tend to divert the current of emigration away from the United States, to our own colonies instead. Emigrants would find out they could get to Australia at the same or less cost than what they are willing to pay for passages to the United States. It would be in perfect accordance with the Colonial Act 16 Vict., No. 42, which was intended to facilitate the operations of emigration societies like the present. It would add to the colonial land fund not less than 75 per cent.; for supposing the cost of the introduction of every male and every unmarried female adult into the colony to be 20 *l.*, such immigrants would now pay three-fourths, or 15 *l.* each, towards that cost, so that the colony would be able to introduce four adults for every single adult introduced previously.

The memorialist would also suggest that the members of this society should not be excluded from the privilege of assisted passages on account of the number of their children. The mortality amongst young children on board of the Commissioners' ships in 1852, arose solely from double-decked ships having been employed. Only single-decked ships are now taken by the Commissioners, and there is therefore no longer the same reason for limiting the number of children. The limitation on this head, has excluded many most useful and highly eligible intending emigrants, members of this society. Also, the exclusion of widows should be removed. There are many industrious widows left destitute, who find it difficult to support themselves and children in this country, but who would be most useful in the colony as servants and housekeepers. The colonial land fund could not be more benevolently applied, than in defraying the cost of their passages. Indeed, the payment of 5 *l.* and the bond for 10 *l.* to be given by them, should entitle them to passages, for they will be paying their own passages very nearly in full, and it will only be their children who will be getting free passages.

The Colonial Government of New South Wales has been pleased to say, that the Scottish Australian Emigration Society is deserving of encouragement and support. If they are to be empowered to conduct emigration from Scotland to New South Wales, independent of the Commissioners, special authority should be given to draw on the Colonial Treasurer for the

NEW SOUTH WALES.

the balance of the cost of the passages, after deducting the deposit of 5 *l.* each male adult, and 1 *l.* each single female adult, on the certificate of Her Majesty's emigration agent at Glasgow being produced, that all the emigrants have been embarked, and that the ship has sailed, all the requirements of the Passengers' Act having been duly observed.

To put Scottish emigration on a proper footing, there ought not only to be an emigration depôt on Clyde, but a Colonial Emigration Board for Scotland. If such a Board were to be appointed by the colonial Government, there could not be better members of it than the following gentlemen, who have long taken a warm and active interest in emigration, viewing it as the most efficient means of benefiting the working classes in Scotland, namely:—

Sir John M'Niel, Chairman of the Board of Supervision for the Poor of Scotland.
Sir Archibald Alison, Sheriff of Lanarkshire.
William Lockart, Esq., M. P. for Lanarkshire.
Rev. Dr. Norman M'Leod, Her Majesty's Chaplain for Scotland.
Sir John Maxwell, of Pollock, Bart.
Colonel Mure, of Caldwell, M. P. for Renfrewshire.
Robert Macfarlane, Esq., Sheriff of Renfrewshire.

The memorialist trusts your Excellency will pardon the liberty he has taken in offering these suggestions, but at the same time he hopes you will give what he has stated your best consideration, and that you will be induced to remove the anomalies and obstructions to emigration he has ventured to bring under the notice of your Excellency.

And as in duty bound, the memorialist will ever pray, &c.

(signed) *John Crawford.*

65, Jamaica-street, Glasgow,
December, 1854.

Encl. 2, in No. 13.

Enclosure 2, in No. 13.

Sir, Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 31 March 1855.

I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor-general to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th of December last, and previous communications, with copies of the correspondence which has passed between the Scottish Australian Emigration Society and the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, respecting a relaxation of the regulations of the latter in favour of certain members of the society, and the providing assisted passages for a number of emigrants in addition to those for whom provision has already been made.

2. With reference to the restrictions enforced by the Commissioners in respect to the number of children to be accepted with each immigrant, I am directed to inform you, that it is not considered that it would have been expedient to have departed from them in the case of the families of members of the Scottish Australian Emigration Society, had it been deemed advisable that the relaxation in favour of the latter, which was conceded by my letter of the 20th March 1854, should be continued or extended to further emigrants from the society. It appears, however, from recent communications from the Emigration Commissioners, that there is no difficulty in obtaining as many emigrants as may be required, who in all respects come within the ordinary regulations, and the Governor-general therefore regrets that he does not feel authorised in recommending that passages should be provided for any more of the members of the society on the condition stated in my letter above-mentioned.

3. His Excellency desires me to add, that a discretion being left with the Emigration Commissioners to deviate from the existing regulations, should they find it necessary, owing to any difficulty in obtaining applicants for emigration, considered most suitable for the colony, it is not deemed advisable on the part of this Government to enter into any engagements with societies established in the United Kingdom for promoting emigration, which would interfere with that discretion.

I have, &c.

John Crawford, Esq., (signed) *C. D. Riddell.*
Secretary to the Scottish Australian Emigration Society,
65, Jamaica-street, Glasgow.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

— No. 14. —

(No. 43.)

No. 14. Governor-General Sir W. Denison to Sir G. Grey. 7 April 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 7 April 1855.

Sir, (Received, 2 July 1855.)

WITH reference to my despatch, No. 15,* of the 19th February last, apprising you of the remittance to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners of a sum of † 10,000 *l.* on account of the 100,000 *l.* which my predecessor in his despatch, No. 189, of the 30th December 1854, stated would be forwarded for the service of emigration, I have now the honour to inform you, that an additional sum of 40,000 *l.* has been transmitted by the Colonial Secretary of this Government to the Commissioners, making, with the 10,000 *l.* above-mentioned, an amount of 50,000 *l.* on account of the promised remittance of 100,000 *l.*

* Page 16.

† Page 13.

2. This remittance has been made out of money raised by the sale of land and immigration debentures, in a bill of exchange on the chief manager of the Oriental Bank, in London, to the extent of 19,575 *l.* 1 *s.* 8 *d.*, and by a payment into the Commissariat Chest of 20,424 *l.* 18 *s.* 4 *d.*; the certificate of the receipt of which by the Assistant Commissary-general has been transmitted to the Commissioners to enable them to obtain an equal amount from the British Treasury. The bill was received from the bank in accordance with their tender for debentures, which provided that payment to the amount of it should be so made.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. Denison.*

— No. 15. —

(No. 66.)

No. 15. Governor-General Sir W. Denison Sir G. Grey. 18 May 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 18 May 1855.

Sir, (Received, 21 September 1855.)

IN pursuance of the instructions contained in Lord Stanley's despatch of the 14th October 1841, No. 16, I have the honour to transmit herewith, in addition to those already reported, duplicates of permissions which have been given to the persons named in the accompanying list,* to import immigrants from the continent of Europe, in terms of the notice † dated 17 October 1853, issued by this Government.

* List of nine persons to whom permissions have been granted.

† *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Session 1855, page 4.

2. The probable amount already promised for the introduction of immigrants under the revised regulations referred to, including the bounties now promised, amounts to 9,972 *l.*; leaving at this date an available balance of 28 *l.* of the additional 10,000 *l.* appropriated to this particular emigration.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. Denison.*

NEW SOUTH WALES.

— No. 16. —

No. 16. Governor-General Sir W. Denison to the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert. 28 May 1855.

(No. 75.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable *Sidney Herbert.*

Government House, Sydney, 28 May 1855.
(Received, 21 September 1855.)

Sir,

THE sum of 10,000 *l.* appropriated to the introduction into the colony of continental labourers, as approved by Sir George Grey's despatch* of 26th August last, No. 33, under the regulations therein referred to, having been exhausted, I do myself the honour to report that, under the advice of my Executive Council, and subject to your approval, I have sanctioned a further sum of 10,000 *l.* being made available for the purposes of this particular description of emigration, under the regulations adverted to.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Session 1855, page 27.

— No. 17. —

No. 17. Governor-General Sir W. Denison to the Secretary of State. 2 June 1855.

(No. 80.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State.

Government House, Sydney, 2 June 1855.
(Received, 21 September 1855.)

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch* of the 7th of April last, in which I reported further remittances to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, making an amount of 50,000 *l.* on account of the additional 100,000 *l.* promised for general emigration purposes, I have now the honour to inform you that I have directed another sum of 12,320 *l.* 10 *s.* to be forwarded to the Commissioners by the present opportunity on the same account. Of this, 10,736 *l.* will be paid from the money repaid for the passage of immigrants under the Assisted Immigrants' Act, and 1,584 *l.* 10 *s.* from the territorial revenue.

2. A sum of 7,679 *l.* 10 *s.* will be sent at the same time out of the amount deposited in the Colonial Treasury under the "Remittance Regulations" and "Land and Immigration Deposit Regulations."

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

* Page 23.

— No. 18. —

No. 18. Governor-General Sir W. Denison to the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert. 23 October 1855.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable *Sidney Herbert*; dated Government House, Sydney, 18 June 1855 (No. 88).

(Received, 23 October 1855.)

"I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for the year ended on the 31st December 1854, returns relating to land and emigration, required by the Secretary of State's circular despatch, dated 22d March 1845.

* * * * *

"5. Return of emigrants who have arrived in the colony."

Enclosure in No. 18.

RETURN of Emigrants who have arrived in the Colony during the Year ending the 31st December 1854.

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	Nature and Extent of Assistance Afforded.	NUMBERS LANDED.									DEATHS ON THE VOYAGE.								REMARKS.
		14 Years and Upwards.		Under 14 Years, but not under 12 Months.		Under 12 Months.		TOTAL.			14 Years and Upwards.		Under 14 Years, but not under 12 Months.		Under 12 Months.		TOTAL.		
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
Assisted to Emigrate out of Public Funds:																			
England - -	The Emigrants shown here obtained passages under the Regulations of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, the cost of which to the public was charged on the Colonial Land Fund of the Colony.	1,373	791	418	391	37	46	1,828	1,228	3,056	4	8	20	26	6	9	30	43	(a)
Scotland - -		472	290	123	95	14	12	609	397	1,006	2	–	9	2	–	2	11	4	
Ireland - - -		974	1,640	238	321	24	29	1,236	1,990	3,226	4	7	5	10	6	9	15	26	
The rest of Europe -		6	11	1	3	–	–	7	14	21	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	
Total Assisted Emigration - -		2,825	2,732	780	810	75	87	3,680	3,629	7,309	10	16	34	38	12	20	56	74	
Unassisted:																			
England - - - - - -		1,309	665	336	383	–	–	1,645	1,048	2,693	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Scotland - - - - - -																			
reland - - - - - -																			
Total Unassisted Emigration -		1,309	665	336	383	–	–	1,645	1,048	2,693	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
GRAND TOTAL - - -		4,134	3,397	1,116	1,193	75	87	5,325	4,677	10,002	10	16	34	38	12	20	56	74	

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	BIRTHS ON THE VOYAGE.			Number of Agricultural Labourers.	Number of Shepherds.	Number of Domestic Servants.		Number of Mechanics engaged in Erecting Buildings, or in obtaining or preparing Building Materials.	Number of Trades-people Preparing or Selling Articles of Food.		Number of Trades-people Engaged in making Articles of Clothing.		Number of Mechanics, &c. not included in the foregoing Columns.		Amount per Head of Emigrant Tax, and under what Authority levied.	Gross Amount of Emigrant Tax Received during the Year.	Number of Ships Arrived with Emigrants.	Average Length of the Voyage.	REMARKS.
	Male.	Female.	Total.			Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.					
Assisted:																			
England - - -	37	42	79	873	37	25	247	242	16	2	6	19	174	4	–	–	22	98½ days	
Scotland - - -				259	30	3	137	93	4	–	2	–	81	–	–	–			
Ireland - - -				849	13	11	1,284	42	7	–	4	28	48	8	–	–			
The rest of Europe -				1	–	–	6	4	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–			
Total Assisted Emigration -	37	42	79	1,982	80	39	1,674	381	27	2	12	47	304	12	–	–	–		
Unassisted:																			
England - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–		(b)
Scotland - - -																			
Ireland - - -																			
Total Unassisted Emigration -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–		
GRAND TOTAL -	37	42	79	1,982	80	39	1,674	381	27	2	12	47	304	12	–	–	–		

(a) Married Women are not included in the numbers shown in the Columns assigned to Female Labourers.

(b) The Returns furnished to this Department by the Customs do not contain any further information than is herein inserted.

Immigration Office, Sydney,
5 April 1855.

(signed) *H. H. Browne,*
Agent for Immigration.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 19.
Governor-General Sir W. Denison to Lord J. Russell. 18 July 1855.

— No. 19. —

(No. 104.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell.*

Government House, Sydney, 18 July 1855.

My Lord, (Received, 23 October 1855.)

WITH reference to my despatch of the 2d June last, No. 80,* respecting the remittances made from the colony for general emigration services, I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that, by the present opportunity, a further sum of 21,787 *l.* will be forwarded, for the same purpose, to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

2. Of this amount 19,531 *l.* will be paid out of the territorial revenue, and 2,256 *l.* from the money received in payment for the passages of immigrants under the Assisted Immigrants' Act.

3. A sum of 469 *l.* is also remitted to the Commissioners to enable them to send out immigrants nominated by depositors under the Land and Immigration Deposit Regulations.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

* Page 24.

— No. 20. —

(No. 127.)

No. 20.
Governor-General Sir W. Denison to Lord J. Russell. 17 August 2855.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell.*

Government House, Sydney, 17 August 1855.

My Lord, (Received, 28 November 1855.)

WITH reference to my despatch of the 18th July, No. 104, in which I apprised your Lordship's predecessor of a further remittance to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners for the general service of emigration, I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that, by the present opportunity, an additional sum of 10,000 *l.* will be forwarded to the Commissioners by the Colonial Secretary of this Government for the same purpose, and that this amount will be paid out of the territorial revenue.

2. The balance still remaining to complete the sum of 100,000 *l.* on account of which the present remittance is made, will be transmitted to the Commissioners by an early opportunity.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

— No. 21. —

(No. 171.)

No. 21.
Governor-General Sir W. Denison to Lord J. Russell. 19 October 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell.*

Government House, Sydney, 19 October 1855.

My Lord, (Received, 26 January 1856.)

WITH reference to my despatch of the 17th August, No. 127, I have now the honour to inform your Lordship, that by the present opportunity, a bill of exchange will be forwarded by the Colonial Secretary of this Government to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners for the sum of 5,892 *l.* 10 *s.*, being the balance of a sum of 100,000 *l.* promised to be remitted to them for general emigration purposes.

2. This sum is remitted out of the territorial revenue.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

— No. 22. —

(No. 201.)

No. 22.
Governor-Genera
Sir W. Denison t
Sir W. Molesworth
21 December 185

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Hon. Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 21 December 1855.

Sir, (Received, 24 March 1856.)

WITH reference to my despatch No. 171, of the 19th October, notifying the remittance to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners of the balance of an amount of 100,000 *l.* promised to be sent to them for general emigration service, I have now the honour to inform you that a sum of 8,381 *l.* 6 *s.* 5 *d.* will be forwarded to them by the Colonial Secretary of this Government by the present mail, for the same service, out of the assisted immigrant's fund; and that a further amount of 10,000 *l.* voted by the Legislative Council for emigration purposes in the present year, will be remitted to the Commissioners early in the next month.

* Page 26.

2. I avail myself of this opportunity to inform you, that the Legislative Council has voted 100,000 *l.* for the service of immigration for 1856; and that this sum, with the payments likely to be made under the Remittance Regulations, will furnish about 10,000 *l.* a month to be remitted to the Commissioners, for this purpose, during the ensuing year.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

— No. 23. —

No. 23.
Governor-Genera
Sir W. Denison t
Sir W. Molesworth
16 January 1856.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart.; dated Government House, Sydney, 16 January 1856 (No. 6).

(Received, 28 April 1856.)

"I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of Acts which have been passed during the last Session of the Legislative Council, to which I have assented in the name and on behalf of Her Majesty.

"No. 35, is intituled, an Act to repeal the Assisted Immigration Acts, and the Land and Immigration Deposit Regulations.

"A Select Committee having been appointed to consider the general question of immigration, submitted a report containing a distinct recommendation that the Assisted Immigrants' Act, and the Land and Immigration Deposit Regulations, should be repealed. The enactment in question was introduced in consequence, by the Chairman of the Select Committee, and was passed by the Cuncil."

Enclosure in No. 23.

Encl. in No. 23

By his Excellency Sir *William Thomas Denison*, Knight, Governor-General in and over all Her Majesty's Colonies of New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land, Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Territory of New South Wales and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council.

No. XXXV.

An ACT (*a*) to repeal the Assisted Immigration Acts, and the Land and Immigration Deposit Regulations.

WHEREAS the Assisted Immigration Acts, and the Land and Immigration Deposit Regulations have not been found beneficial, and it is deemed expedient to repeal the same; be it therefore enacted, by his Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows: Preamble.

I. The

(*a*) Her Majesty's Assent to this Act conveyed by Mr. Labouchere's despatch, No. 67, 28 May 1856.

16 Vict., No. 42, and 18 Vict., No. 29,* repealed, except as herein mentioned.
* *Vide* page 11.

I. The Act of Council passed in the 16th year of Her Majesty's reign, and known as the Assisted Immigration Act, and the Act passed to amend the same in the 18th year of Her said Majesty's reign, are hereby repealed, except in respect of all rights acquired and liabilities incurred by employers and immigrants who have come under engagements in pursuance of the said Acts, or either of them, and in respect of the rights and liabilities which, in pursuance of the ninth section of the first above-mentioned Act, have already been acquired or come under, or which, before the receipt of notice of this Act, shall be acquired or come under by and between the owner or master of any ship or vessel, and any emigrants from the United Kingdom or any foreign country.

The Land and Immigration Deposit Regulations, published in the Government Gazette, 8 June 1852, repealed, except as to deposits made.

II. The Land and Immigration Deposit Regulations established by his Excellency the Governor-general, with the advice of the Executive Council, and notified on the 8th day of June, in the year 1852, are hereby repealed, except as to or in relation to any deposits made in pursuance thereof before the passing hereof.

Charles Nicholson, Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 6th day of December 1855.

Wm. Macpherson, Clerk of the Council.

In the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, I assent to this Act.

(signed) *W. Denison*, Governor-General.

Government House, 18 December 1855.

— No. 24. —

(No. 19.)

No. 24. Governor-General Sir W. Denison to Sir G. Grey. 1 February 1846.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Sydney, 1 February 1856.

Sir, (Received, 14 May 1856.)

* Page 27.

WITH reference to my despatch* of the 21st ultimo, No. 201, I have now the honour to inform you, that by the present opportunity the Colonial Secretary of this Government will remit to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners the sum of 10,000 *l.*, therein notified as intended to be forwarded as a further payment for the service of emigration for 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

(No. 1.)

No. 1. Sir G. Grey to Governor-General Sir W. Denison. 1 January 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart. to Governor-General Sir *W. Denison*.

Sir, Downing-street, 1 January 1855.

* *Vide* Papers presented February 1855, page 17.

I HAVE received Sir C. FitzRoy's despatch * No. 94, of the 14th July, respecting the debt incurred for immigration by debentures secured on the territorial revenue of New South Wales, and as it appears that the sum of 60,000 *l.* recently raised, is intended for the purpose of paying off outstanding debentures, and does not form an addition to the debt already charged upon that revenue, Her Majesty's Government see no objection to the arrangements proposed upon this subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey.*

— No. 2. —

(No. 9.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *Sidney Herbert* to Governor-General Sir *W. Denison.*

No. 2.
The Right Hon. Sidney Herbert to Governor-General Sir W. Denison.
24 February 1855.

Sir, Downing-street, 24 February 1855.

THE Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners have informed me, with reference to a penalty for breaches of the charter-party, which they have recently felt called upon to inflict on the owners of an emigrant vessel, that the assessment of such penalties would be materially facilitated, if in cases where short issues or short shipments are reported by the Colonial Immigration Boards to have taken place on any ship chartered by the Emigration Commissioners, those Boards would report the specific amount of the various deficiencies, as far as the evidence before them may enable them to do so. I have therefore to request that you will give directions, which will cause a compliance with this suggestion of the Commissioners.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Sidney Herbert.*

— No. 3. —

(No. 47.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey* to Governor-General Sir *W. Denison.*

No. 3.
Sir G. Grey to Governor-General Sir W. Denison.
25 April 1855.

Sir, Downing-street, 25 April 1855.

WITH reference to Earl Grey's despatch* of the 17th July 1851, stating that a sum of 40 *l.* was to be allowed on certain conditions to the surgeons of emigrant ships, to defray the expense of their return passage to this country, I have now to acquaint you, that as the price of passages has risen considerably since that date, it has been determined that the allowance in question shall be raised from 40 *l.* to 60 *l.*, subject to the same conditions as to good conduct and return as before; the same to be reduced whenever a fall in the price of passages from Australia shall take place.

* *Vide* Papers presented by Command, 30 April 1852, page 28.

The increase will take effect from the present date, in order to include the claims of officers now on their way home.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey.*

— No. 4. —

(No. 29.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell* to Governor-General Sir *W. Denison.*

No. 4.
Lord J. Russell to Governor-General Sir W. Denison.
4 June 1855.

Sir, Downing-street, 4 June 1855.

I HAVE received your predecessor's despatch No. 189,* of the 31st December last, reporting that in pursuance of an address from his Legislative Council, he had sanctioned the remittance of a further sum of 100,000 *l.* for the service of emigration to New South Wales, of which 50,000 *l.* was to be raised by means of debentures, and I now enclose for your information, the copy of a letter from the assistant secretary to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, in reply to the reference which was made to their Lordships on the subject.

* Page 13.

28 May 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Encl. in No. 4.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Sir, Treasury Chambers, 28 May 1855.

I HAVE laid before the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury your letter of the 5th instant, enclosing the copy of a despatch from the Governor of New South Wales, reporting his having sanctioned the raising a further sum of 50,000 *l.* for purposes of immigration.

I am directed by their Lordships to acquaint you, for the information of Lord John Russell, that they regret that the Government of New South Wales should again have recourse to raising, by debentures, a further sum on account of immigration.

Their Lordships, in their letter* of the 25th February 1854, suggested to the Duke of Newcastle the expediency of confining the expenditure for this purpose within the revenue of the year, and they would recommend that the necessity for observing this limitation should be again pressed upon the Governor of New South Wales.

* *Vide* Papers presented August 1854, page 69. Part I.

Their Lordships are far from undervaluing the importance to the colony of securing an ample supply of labour; but they cannot consider the expenditure required for this purpose as a temporary necessity, which might justify the increase, year after year, of the debt of the colony.

They will not, however, object to the measure now proposed of raising 50,000 *l.* by debentures, trusting that the colonial authorities will not, without urgent necessity, have recourse to so objectionable a mode of providing for this branch of their expenditure.

I am, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq. (signed) *C. E. Trevelyan.*

— No. 5. —

No. 5.
Lord J. Russell to Governor-General Sir W. Denison.
7 June 1855.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell* to Governor-General Sir *W. Denison*; dated Downing-street, 7 June 1855. (No. 35.)

* Page 11.

"I HAVE received your predecessor's despatch No. 180,* of the 30th of December last, submitting for the Royal allowance authenticated copies of 20 public Acts (Nos. 21 to 40 inclusive), and 11 private Acts passed by the Legislature of New South Wales during their last Session. * * * * I have to acquaint you that I have laid before the Queen the Acts of this series, * * * and that Her Majesty has been pleased to approve and allow the same.

* * * * *

24 May 1855.

"With respect to the Act No. 29 'to amend the Assisted Immigration Act,' I enclose for your information the copy of a report on the subject, which has been received from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners."

Encl. in No. 5.

Enclosure in No. 5.

Colonial, Land, and Emigration Office,

Sir, 24 May 1855.

IN obedience to the Secretary of State's directions, we have perused and considered an Act passed by the Legislature of New South Wales in the month of November last, No. 29, intituled, "An Act to amend the Assisted Immigration Act."

2. We would beg to explain for Lord John Russell's information, that in 1852 an Act was passed empowering the immigration agent to assign for a period of two years immigrants conveyed to the colony at the public expense, unless on arrival their friends were able to repay a portion of that expense, according to a scale fixed by the Act, and varying with the ages and description of the immigrants.

3. In the cases of assigned immigrants, the Act also imposed on their employers the obligation of making this payment partly by cash on the execution of the indentures, and partly by a promissory note payable at the end of the first year of service, the amount in both cases being liable to be deducted from the immigrant's wages.

4. Such being a brief outline of the system, it is perhaps of the various schemes which at different times have been proposed for conducting emigration on a self-supporting principle, the one which may be considered to have worked most satisfactorily, although by no means with complete success, as the present papers show.

5. It appears that the sums received in the colony on account of 20 ships despatched last year, amounted to 19,694 *l.* in cash, or nearly 1,000 *l.* per ship. But for these ships there were also received in this country 6,003 *l.*, so that the cash receipts from the people themselves,

selves, their friends, and employers, amounted to about 1,250 *l.* per ship, or at least one-fourth of the average price of each vessel. NEW SOUTH WALES

6. Moreover, independently of these sums, additional payments were received in the shape of remittances for particular emigrants, and 7,305 *l.* is still recoverable from employers on the promissory notes; so that undoubtedly the effect of the scheme was to raise a large sum from the immigrants; but nevertheless considerable difficulty is experienced in working the scheme, and many employers object to the assignment system, as failing to secure to them good service. We therefore look to the probability of considerable modifications of the existing law, as indeed we are led to expect by the coming despatch.

7. The present Act merely exempts from the operation of the previous law unmarried females, and makes some trifling alterations which have been found necessary, and which in former reports we pointed out as likely to be required.

8. We would, therefore, submit our recommendation that the present Act should be sanctioned by the Queen; and we have to add, that seeing that it only modified a previous measure which had been allowed, we proceeded to act upon it as soon as we were made aware of its having passed, and have since required all people proceeding to New South Wales to sign the form of indenture which it prescribes, instead of that which was previously in use.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 6. —

(No. 50.)

No. 6.
Lord J. Russell to Governor-General Sir W. Denison.
19 July 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell* to Governor-General Sir *William Denison.*

Sir, Downing-street, 19 July 1855.

I REFERRED for the report of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners a copy of your despatch No. 23,* of the 2d of March last, with its enclosures, relative to the female emigrants who were sent out to New South Wales in the ship "Lady Kennaway," and to the general question of female emigration from Ireland; and I now enclose for your information a copy of the reply which has been received on the subject from that Board.

* Page 16.

7 July 1855.

This document is transmitted to you, not with a view to any further controversy on the points which have been in discussion between yourself and the Emigration Commissioners, but because it contains information which cannot fail to be of interest and value to the colony over which you preside.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

Enclosure in No. 6.

Encl. in No. 6.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
7 July 1855.

Sir,

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st May, enclosing the copy of a despatch from the Governor of New South Wales relative to the emigrants by the ship "Lady Kennaway."

2. In this despatch Sir William Denison draws attention to the concluding paragraph of a report of the Immigration Board, deprecating the introduction of female Irish orphans, and also to a return showing the number, sex, religion, and country of the immigrants who had arrived during the year 1854, and requests that we may be instructed not to send any more females from Irish Unions, and to forward a larger number of English and Scotch emigrants.

3. It will be necessary that we should explain, 1. The circumstances under which the young women sent out by the "Lady Kennaway" were selected from the Cork Union; and, 2. The reasons which make us doubt the possibility of obtaining, for the present at least, any large proportion of emigrants from England or Scotland.

4. In respect to the selection of the young women we have to state, that in the month of May 1854 a member of this Board being at Cork on official business, his attention was called by the Poor Law Inspector there to the number of young women then in the Union. It was explained that a large number of these had been in domestic service, but had been thrown

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thrown out of employ by the emigration of the small farmers and tradespeople with whom they had been living; and it was stated that it was in contemplation to send a number of them to British North America, an intention which, we believe, was afterwards carried out. As during the years 1852 and 1853 the Governor of New South Wales had been continually urging the necessity of a continuous supply of labour, at the rate even of five ships a month, and as the number of female emigrants who can be obtained must, to a great extent, be the measure of the whole number whom it would be expedient to send, it appeared to us that it would be for the interest of the colony to take advantage of this opportunity of selecting from a large body of young women, those who appeared best fitted for colonial service. We could not but be influenced in coming to this decision by the evidence given before the Committee of the Legislative Council of New South Wales, by Mr. Savage, the health officer of Port Jackson, to the effect that the orphans had been of the greatest service to the colony; that they had become some of the best servants in it, and were regarded as equal to those who had come out as professed servants; and also by the very high character given of those sent to Van Diemen's Land, and the recommendation in Sir W. Denison's despatch of 19th January 1852, that a further supply of them should be sent to that colony. But as the expense of providing the outfit of these young women, and forwarding them to Plymouth would be nearly equal to the expense of sending them to British North America, the poor-law authorities stated, when we applied to them, that they could not make the contribution which had been formerly demanded towards the passages.

5. Much time and trouble was given to the selection, which was made in the presence, and with the assistance of the Poor Law Inspector, of the clergy of the Churches of England and Rome, and of the other persons in authority in the poor-house, and no one was taken, as far as it was possible to ascertain, who had not been previously in service, whose appearance did not evince clean and tidy habits, and whose character was not beyond suspicion. It was further stipulated, that as soon as the selection had been completed, those who were selected should be separated from the other inmates of the workhouse, and put under the immediate control of a matron, in order that they might prepare their outfits, and be exercised in household work; and further to ensure their good conduct, the services of one of the matrons of the house, who bore a very high character, were secured, and the Rev. Mr. Parker, who had for several years acted as Roman-catholic chaplain, was induced to accompany them.

6. We learn from the report of the immigration agent, that the conduct of the young women on the voyage was good; that the care with which they had been selected was apparent; that they were unquestionably superior to those who had lately been received from Ireland, both in personal cleanliness and in aptitude for service, and that upon their arrival they were placed in service at very remunerative wages. So far, therefore, they did not disappoint the expectations with which we sent them out. But it is added that there is, and has been for some time, a great disinclination on the part of the colonists to receive young women from the Irish workhouses; and the Immigration Board request that we may be instructed to discontinue this emigration as being "most unsuitable to the requirements of the colony, and distasteful to the majority of the people." We shall, of course, act on this expression of opinion, which is also supported by Sir W. Denison, although we may be permitted to observe that the readiness with which the young women in question obtained situations, and the wages paid them, are scarcely reconcileable with the statement that they are "most unsuitable" to the wants of the colony.

7. But it is our duty clearly to explain the consequence of acting on this recommendation, and our explanation on this point will be our answer to Sir W. Denison's suggestion, that we should be instructed to send out a larger proportion of English or Scotch Emigrants. From this suggestion we infer that Sir W. Denison is under a misapprehension as to the principles which we have endeavoured to observe in conducting emigration, and as to the difficulties which we have to encounter in so doing. We have endeavoured at all times to apportion the emigration from the different divisions of the United Kingdom to the population of each, and till within a recent period, we have succeeded to a great extent in doing so. On reference to the statistics of our emigration, we find that at the end of 1850 we had been able to establish an almost exact proportion between the numbers sent from each part of the United Kingdom. In 1851, in consequence of a sudden acceleration of the emigration, we were compelled to have recourse to Ireland; and the Irish emigration exhibited in that year an excess of 2,000 out of nearly 12,000. In 1852, however, from the demand for passages consequent on the gold discoveries, we were able to reduce the preponderance of Irish; but when that attraction had lost its power, and we were still urged, as in 1853 and 1854, to keep up the emigration at the rate of from six to eight ships a month, we found it impossible to do so without accepting a larger number of Irish than in a strict proportion to the population. In 1853 the number of emigrants sent by us to Australia was 27,723, and in 1854, 43,056. When such are the numbers, it would be hopeless to expect that the due proportion of English and Scotch can be obtained, considering the comparative indisposition among them, and especially among unmaried women, to emigrate. The returns of emigration from the several ports of the United Kingdom during the last two years will show the difference of the emigrating element with which we have to deal in Great Britain and Ireland. The numbers were:

	1853.	1854.
From England - - - -	62,915	90,966
„ Scotland - - - -	22,605	25,872
„ Ireland - - - -	192,609	150,209

whereas, according to the proportion of population, they should have been—

	1853.	1854.
From England - - - -	182,675	175,396
„ Scotland - - - -	29,204	28,040
„ Ireland - - - -	66,250	63,611

But a stronger proof may be found in the applications made to this office. Notwithstanding the pressure which we have latterly put upon our agents in all parts of England and Scotland, the applications from those parts of the United Kingdom are falling off in a much larger proportion than the applications from Ireland. Thus during the quarters ending the 30th June 1854 and 1855, the numbers were—

	1854.	1855.
From England - - - -	8,245	2,067
„ Scotland - - - -	5,034	821
„ Ireland - - - -	4,505	2,240
	17,784	5,128

showing that while English applications have fallen off 75 and Scotch applications 83 per cent., Irish applications have fallen only about 50 per cent.

8. The scarcity of labour and high rate of wages in England at the present moment might be held sufficiently to account for the falling off in English applications, but it might be supposed that active exertions would be successful in Scotland, where employment is less abundant and wages very low. But we have recently had a striking illustration of the contrary. Early in this year, at the request of the Highland Society and some of the Highland proprietors, we sent an officer who has been employed in the same service before, to select emigrants from the Scotch highlands and islands. At the time of his inspection a large number offered themselves, and he eventually accepted no less than 1,390 persons. Of these, however, no more have come forward than 158, and we have no reason to expect any additions to this number. The explanation of the change given us is, that the prospect of a favourable harvest had induced the people to hold on for the present.

9. In conclusion, we would submit that the above facts should be made known to the Governor of New South Wales, and, so far as regards the difficulty of obtaining a full proportion of English and Scotch emigrants, to the Governors of South Australia and Victoria. In the meantime we shall make every exertion to meet the wishes of the Government of New South Wales in respect to the emigrants to be sent to that colony; but looking to the present circumstances of England and Scotland, to the rate of wages, and to the extensive demands now existing for the military departments as well as for ordinary occupations, we do not expect to be able to increase to any great extent the number of emigrants from Great Britain. If, therefore, the number of English and Scotch emigrants is to be made the measure of the whole emigration (as we presume is to be the case), the result must be a considerable reduction of the number of ships to be despatched to New South Wales.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

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— No. 7. —

(No. 20.)

No. 7.
Sir W. Molesworth to Governor-Gen. Sir W. Denison.
31 August 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth* to Governor-General Sir *W. Denison.*

Sir, Downing-street, 31 August 1855.

9 August 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you the copy of a report which has been drawn up by the Land and Emigration Commissioners, setting forth the comparative advantages which, so far as the means at their disposal enable them to judge, are derivable from the two sets of rules (the Deposit and Remittance Regulations), under which Government emigration to the Australian colonies is now conducted, together with tabular returns, showing the rates of payment in the different colonies under the different regulations, the number of persons nominated, and the amount of money received under them during 1853 and 1854.

I transmit this statement to you for your information and assistance in any review which may hereafter be made in the colony of the regulations upon this kind of emigration.

I have &c.
(signed) *W. Molesworth.*

Encl. in No. 7.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Sir, Colonial Land and Emigration Office, 9 August 1855.

Sir William Molesworth is probably aware of a remarkable contrast which exists between the American and Australian emigrations. From the comparatively poor emigrants to North America, more than 4,500,000 *l.* has been remitted during the last three years to their friends at home, principally for the purpose of aiding them to emigrate. From the far wealthier (though no doubt far less numerous) settlers in Australia on the contrary, the remittances have been comparatively trifling.

2. This difference, perhaps, principally arises from the fact that to Australia a large Government emigration is continually in progress, and that all persons strictly eligible under the regulations of this Board, can generally obtain free passages thither on making the trifling contribution which these regulations require. Of course, therefore, individual colonists, who wish to bring out their relatives (if eligible emigrants) have little inducement to pay money for that purpose.

3. It has, however, been always considered desirable to induce them to do so, and with that object two sets of regulations have been established in the Australian colonies.

4. By the first of these, usually called the Land Deposit Regulations, colonists depositing money for the purchase of land, were enabled in proportion to the amount of their deposits to nominate emigrants for free passages in ships chartered by this Board, on condition however, that the nominees were strictly eligible under our rules, and that they made, when accepted, the usual contributions.

5. Under the second, usually called the Remittance Regulations, residents in the colony are enabled, either to remit sums of money through this Board for the outfit of any emigrants proceeding in our ships, or, on making certain payments, varying according to the ages, sexes, and qualifications of the nominees, to obtain free passages for those nominees without any further payment in this country. As the payments required in the colony are uniformly larger than the contributions levied from persons selected in this country, it will be seen at once that they form a step in the direction of a self-supporting emigration, which cannot be said either of the land deposits or of the mere money remittances.

6. The two sets of regulations have taken different shapes in the three great Australian colonies, and though their results are not very considerable or significant, yet considering the interest which attaches to the experiment, it may be desirable that the colonies concerned should be aware of the different ways in which they have worked.

7. The subjoined tables show, first, the rates of payment in the different colonies under the different regulations; secondly, the number of persons nominated; and, thirdly, the amount of money received under them during the years 1853 and 1854, in which years alone any large number of remittances have been made.

I. Rates

I. Rates of payment:—

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		Agricultural Labourers, and other First-class Emigrants and their Families.	Mechanics, and other Second-class Emigrants, and their Families.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
For each person	Between 1 and 14 years of age	2 10 –	5 – –
	„ 14 and 40 „	5 – –	10 – –
	„ 40 and 50 „	10 – –	12 – –
	Above 50 „	15 – –	15 – –

VICTORIA.

		Free Passages.		Assisted Passages.
		Male.	Female.	
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
For each person eligible under the Regulations of this Board.	Between 1 and 14	4 – –	2 – –	For ineligible persons, the estimated cost of passage is required.
	„ 14 and 45	8 – –	4 – –	
	„ 45 and 60	12 – –	6 – –	

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

		Agricultural Labourers, and their Families.	Other Emigrants, and their Families.	Wives of Emigrants in the Colony.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
For each person	Under 45	4 – –	8 – –	10 – –
	Between 45 and 50	6 – –	8 – –	10 – –
	Above 50	15 – –	15 – –	15 – –

It should be added that, in Victoria, the Land Deposit Regulations have been rescinded; and that the authorities in that colony proposed to require from nominees under the Remittance Regulations a contribution in this country, in addition to that which was made in the colony. Being confident, however, from our experience that this stipulation would practically have prevented the emigration of a large number of these poor persons, and thus have caused great disappointment to the depositors, we obtained permission from the Secretary of State to dispense with it.

II. The numbers nominated were as follows:—

	Number of Persons nominated.
New South Wales:	
Under Remittance Regulations - 1st class	4,876
Ditto - 2d class	186
Total	5,062
Under Land Deposit Regulations	666
Victoria:	
Free passages	1,326
Assisted passages	82
Total	1,408
South Australia:	
Under Remittance Regulations	112
Under Land Deposit Regulations, accompanied by remittance of money	3,295
Total	3,407
Under Land Deposit Regulations without such remittance	2,108

NEW SOUTH WALES.

III. The following were the receipts in the different colonies, whether for free passages or for outfit:

COLONY.	For Passage.	For Outfit.	Total.	Number Nominated.	Average Deposit for Passage in respect of each Emigrant.
	£.	£.	£.		£. s. d.
New South Wales - -	23,308	4,680	27,988	5,062	4 12 1
Victoria - - - -	7,517	2,317	9,834	1,408	5 6 9
South Australia - -	5,011	927	5,938	3,407	1 9 4

8. An inspection of the above tables suggests the following remarks:

First. In Victoria, where the rate of payment under the Remittance Regulations is high, and the Land Deposit Regulations are abolished, the numbers of persons contributing to the emigration of their friends is very much smaller than in New South Wales or South Australia, though this colony is now the richest and most populous of the group.

Second. In South Australia, where the rate of payment under the Remittance Regulations is high, and the Deposit Regulations are retained, the former are almost entirely in abeyance, and the colonists procure the emigration of their friends under the Land Deposit Regulations. The consequence is, that though the numbers of emigrants sent out under these regulations is large, the colony does not generally gain any greater contribution from the emigrant or his friends than would have been required if his application had been made in this country in the usual manner.

Third. In New South Wales the Deposit Regulations exist, but the scale of payment required under the Remittance Regulations is very moderate, and persons sent out under them have the advantage of escaping the indentures of service which are required from other emigrants. Apparently from these causes, the number of persons nominated under the Remittance Regulations is larger, and the amount received under these regulations very considerably larger, than in both the other colonies put together.

9. Our own conclusions from these facts would be, first, that in order to encourage payments under the Remittance Regulations, the scale of payment prescribed by the Remittance Regulations in Victoria and South Australia should be lowered. And next, that the Deposit Regulations should be abolished in New South Wales and South Australia. And we may add, that if it were practicable to make and keep the rate of payment uniform in the three colonies, some advantage would be gained in preventing a species of fraud which has come to our knowledge. It has occurred that colonists have made deposits to bring their relatives out to a colony where the scale of payment was low, in order ultimately to send them on to another where they intended to settle, but in which the rate of payment was higher. This is an evident fraud on the colony which had to pay for the emigrants' passages; and it is one which might become frequent if there were any great difference between the scales of payment in the different colonies.

10. At the same time we are fully aware that the matter is one on which (unlike the regulations respecting the collection or embarkation of emigrants in this country) the interest and convenience of the colonists are alone concerned, that they have fuller materials for forming a sound judgment than we possess, and that in each colony the particular course taken may be recommended by reasons which are familiar to them on the spot, though not to us. And it will also be remembered, that we have before now suggested the abolition of the Land Deposit Regulations which was not assented to by the authorities of New South Wales or South Australia.

11. Although therefore it may be useful to submit to the colonial authorities the facts which illustrate the working of these regulations in the different colonies, we should deprecate pressing upon them any particular conclusion which, for reasons of local convenience, they may be disinclined to adopt.

We have, &c.
(signed) *C. Alexander Wood,*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

VICTORIA.

Despatches from Governor Sir Charles Hotham.

VICTORIA.

VICTORIA.

Despatches from Governor Sir Charles Hotham.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.
Governor Sir C. Hotham to Sir G. Grey. 24 October 1854.

(No. 134.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Charles Hotham* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Toorac, near Melbourne, 24 October 1854.

(Received, 25 January 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 18, 7 March 1855, page 75.)

HEREWITH I have the honour of transmitting the annual report of the immigration agent of this colony for the year 1853, accompanied by detailed statistical appendices.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Chas. Hotham.*

Encl. in No. 1.

Enclosure in No. 1.

REPORT.

Sir, Immigration Office, Melbourne, 12 August 1854.

I DO myself the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report upon the immigration and emigration of the year 1853, accompanied by a series of returns,* in which I have endeavoured to embody as much statistical information as my office will enable me to supply, of a nature which will be interesting to Her Majesty's Government or the public.

2. I propose to follow the arrangement adopted by my predecessors, and consider the subject under the heads of Assisted Immigration, Unassisted Immigration, Emigration, and the Houseless Immigrants' Asylums. To these must be added the Sanitary Station, which, till lately, has formed a branch of this department.

Assisted immigration.

3. Assisted or Government immigration has been maintained throughout the year at a rate nearly equal to the importation of 1852. In the appendices I place a statement giving the name of each vessel chartered by Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, which arrived during the year, the length of voyage in each case, the births, deaths, numbers introduced, contract price, and cost of introduction.

4. On contrasting this table with that furnished by my predecessor for the year 1852, it will be found that while the actual importation of souls has diminished from 15,477 to 14,578, the mortality on board of emigrant ships has also considerably decreased; the average of deaths having fallen from 5·5 to 3·6 per cent. In the last 17 ships it amounted to but 1·3 per cent. upon the numbers embarked, plus the numbers born, and of the whole 546 deaths, 149 were those of infants under one year, 287 children between one and 14, leaving the small remainder 110 adults. These very satisfactory results, and the improved general health of the emigrants landed, may be attributed in a great measure to the employment of a superior class of ships, carrying fewer passengers and on one deck only, thus affording better accommodation and improved ventilation. It may now be considered an established fact, that the larger the ship, the shorter will be the passage and the less the mortality. The average tonnage of the vessels employed in this service during the year was 797, the passage 107 days, the number of souls on board 331, and the deaths 3·6 per cent.; but in the last 17 ships above referred to, the tonnage was 853, the length of voyage 98 days, the number of souls 317, and the deaths only 1·3 per cent.

5. The number of births on board emigrant ships was 303, of which 152 were males and 151 females.

6. Forty-four

* These Returns being exceedingly voluminous are not printed.

6. Forty-four ships arrived during the year, landing emigrants at the under-mentioned ports, in the following proportions:—

PORT.	Ships.	Souls.
Melbourne - - - - -	28	9,146
Geelong - - - - -	11	3,824
Portland - - - - -	5	1,608
TOTAL - - -	44	14,578

7. It will be gratifying to your Excellency to remark, that the recommendations of the late Lieutenant-governor, Mr. Latrobe, that a large number of females should be imported in order to check the manifest disproportion in the sexes, consequent on the enormous addition to the male population which resulted from the opening of the gold fields in 1851, have been carefully attended to by Her Majesty's Commissioners; and that the number of women, female children, and infants introduced, nearly doubles the number of males. The introduction of single men, except grown sons in large families, has been abandoned.

8. At the commencement of the year it was found necessary to place the three ships "Allison," "Priscilla," and "Confiance," in quarantine, the prevailing diseases being scarlet and typhus fever, and whooping cough.

9. The surgeons-superintendent have fully maintained their character for efficiency, and have done equal credit to the selection of Her Majesty's Commissioners. In but two instances have any portion of the gratuities been withheld or the certificates modified, on which further employment in the service is obtainable. In each case a special report was furnished for the information of the Lieutenant-governor. It has been my duty lately to submit for your Excellency's consideration, the expediency of increasing the return passage-money of these officers, both with a view of retaining experienced surgeons in the service, and of rendering them more independent whilst in charge of emigrants, by placing them in a position to pay their passages home, without laying themselves under obligations to the masters of the emigrant ships with whom they come out. Since forwarding this recommendation, I find that in the colony of New South Wales the increase of the allowances of surgeons-superintendent has been also brought under the notice of that Government by the immigration agent in Sydney.

10. The amount of passage-money upon each statute adult has increased from 14*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* to 17*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*, a result which was fully anticipated by my predecessor, owing to the general rise in freight to the colonies. The amount paid upon immigrants who died on the voyage has diminished from 5*s.* 2*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* The amount of gratuities has increased from 19*s.* to 19*s.* 10*d.* upon the number landed alive. The total cost of conveyance and superintendence per statute adult was therefore greater in 1853 than in 1852 by 2*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* That this increased rate has been a gradual one will be seen from the following table:—

	Statute Adults.	Amount.	Averages.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1851 - - - - -	1,750	18,234 15 4	10 8 4½
1852 - - - - -	12,590	187,392 1 8	14 17 7
1853 - - - - -	12,242	217,631 4 5	17 15 7

I regret to state that the rate of passages has now risen to 24*l.* 18*s.*, with, I fear, an increasing tendency. The comparative value of the labour imported, measured by the number of statute adults that have arrived in each year, will stand thus:—

	Souls.	Statute Adults.
1852 - - - - - -	15,477	12,590
1853 - - - - - -	14,578	12,242
Decrease - - -	899	348

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As therefore the number of souls diminished by 899, whilst the statute adults were less by 348 (two children between one and 14 years of age being counted as one statute adult), it follows that the per centage of persons over the age of 14 imported in 1853, or, in other words, of immediately available labour, was greater than in the preceding year. The limit imposed upon the number of young children in each family, while it has also tended to decrease the rate of mortality on the passage, and to maintain a stricter discipline on board of ships, has been in a great measure the cause of this improvement.

11. Return No. II. gives the sex and age of the assisted immigrants who have arrived within the year 1853; classed according to their native countries, their proportions stand as follow:—

	Males.	Females.
England	2,779	4,192
Scotland	1,623	2,208
Ireland	834	2,940
Other Countries		2
TOTAL	5,236	9,342

12. Return No. III. gives the condition of the immigrants introduced, classed as before, according to their native countries. It will be observed from this Return that the importation of single females over single males, has been equal to upwards of 25 per cent. upon the whole immigration of the year.

13. In Return No. IV. will be found the religious persuasions of the assisted immigrants that have arrived, in the following proportions:—

	Males.	Females.
Church of England	2,311	3,750
Presbyterians	1,590	2,207
Wesleyans	405	534
Other Protestants	211	334
Roman-catholics	719	2,511
Other Persuasions		6
TOTAL	5,236	9,342

14. Return No. V. shows the occupation of the assisted immigrants, viz.:—

	Males.	Females.
Agricultural Labourers	2,115	—
Shepherds	178	—
Domestic Servants	15	4,135
Mechanics (building)	567	—
Other Mechanics	203	1
Tradespeople (food)	26	2
Tradespeople (clothing)	162	215
Married women, children under 14, and others not included	1,970	4,989
TOTAL	5,236	9,342

15. Returns Nos. VI., VII., and VIII., give the state of education of the assisted immigrants imported in 1853, with reference to their native countries, their religious persuasions, and their ages.

The desire among a superior class of labourers to emigrate is strikingly exemplified in these Tables; the proportion of educated persons who have arrived being very much above the average of previous years. Their number will stand thus:—

	Males.	Females.
Persons who can read and write - - - -	2,894	4,947
Persons who can read only - - - - -	653	1,745
Neither read nor write, including children and infants - - - - - - - - -	1,689	2,650
TOTAL - - -	5,236	9,342

16. In Return No. IX. is shown the number of children under 14 years of age in the families of the assisted immigrants who arrived in 1853. The average in each family was 1·5, being a small per centage under the numbers of the previous year.

17. Return No. X. shows the periods of engagement, and the average rates of wages obtained by the immigrants at the ports of Melbourne, Geelong, and Portland, during the year 1853. It will be seen, that notwithstanding the large addition to the population, the rate of wages of single females has increased on an average from 21 *l.* 10 *s.* to 23 *l.* 1 *s.* 9 *d.* This may be attributed more to the increased demand for every description of labour than to the greater attractions of the gold fields. The number of public and private buildings that were erected in 1853, within the city of Melbourne and town of Geelong, and in their immediate vicinities, readily afforded occupation to all the mechanics introduced by the Government; while the increased quantity of land brought under cultivation quickly absorbed the agricultural labourers as they arrived. The demand for single females as domestic servants was never greater; the number of registered marriages which took place in the colony in the last half of the year amounting to 1515; the daily applications for servants by persons who had unexpectedly acquired wealth at the gold fields, and the constant arrival of the ordinary employers of domestic servants, all tended to this result. Nor has the demand decreased at the present moment, nor the rate of wages in the least diminished.

The following statement of the average rate of wages obtained, will show how gradually progressive this increase has been since the discovery of gold:

		Married Couples.	Single Men.	Single Women.
		£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*
1st October 1851 to 31st May	1852 -	53 – –	38 – –	20 – –
	1852 -	63 – –	41 – –	21 10 –
	1853 -	69 17 11	54 11 –	23 1 9

18. Return No. XI. is a Table of the nominations in the colony for passages under the Remittance Regulations of the 29th May 1852, for the first half of 1853.

19. Return No. XII. gives the nominations under the revised Regulations of the 1st June 1853, for the latter portion of the year. The anticipation of my predecessor as to the working of these Regulations appears to have been realised; the nominations for free passages having increased by about 80 per cent. Thus:—

	Nominations.	Amount Remitted.
		£.
Under former Regulations, January to June 1853 -	211	1,538
Under revised Regulations, July to December 1853 -	383	2,597

20. In concluding my summary of the assisted immigration of the past year, I may be permitted to offer a few remarks, and to refer to the prospects of the colony, as regards that which is at present going on. To the present date the immigration conducted at the expense of the Government continues undiminished. During the present year 32 ships have arrived,

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arrived, carrying 10,828 souls, which were landed at the various ports of the colony in the following proportions, viz.:—

	Ships.	Souls.
Melbourne - - - - -	19	6,606
Geelong - - - - -	10	3,169
Portland - - - - -	3	1,053
TOTAL - - -	32	10,828

I regret, however, to remark, that the character of labour imported is not equal to that which the colony received in 1853; the majority of the married couples being idle, uneducated, and dirty; and the single women, with but few exceptions, totally unaccustomed to domestic service. Yet, notwithstanding these defects, no difficulty has been found in obtaining situations for these persons; and it seems that even a larger amount of labour would be readily absorbed were the colony in a position to introduce it. It is much to be regretted, however, that the selections of the Land and Emigration Commissioners should latterly have been made so largely from the Irish Unions, thereby introducing a description of labour, which, although readily turned to account for want of a better, is not the best which is to be had, or which the colony is entitled to expect. It appears to me that a great check upon the emigration from Great Britain of a more useful class of industry exists in the Regulations, which insists upon a certain contribution for bedding and mess utensils, which the industrious labourer is, in the majority of instances, quite unable to furnish, but which the overburdened unions and parishes willingly pay to be relieved of their paupers. I am disposed to think greater facilities should be given to suitable emigrants, and that when persons coming within the Regulations offer themselves, no money payment whatever should be demanded or taken; but that when the Commissioners relieve a parish of its paupers, they should insist upon a large portion of the expense being borne by the rate-payers.

21. The demand for labour in Melbourne continues unabated; but it is confined in a great measure to male and female domestic servants, mechanics engaged in building, and agricultural labourers.

22. In Geelong the assistant immigration agent reports that the immigrants who arrived in 1853 have been altogether inadequate to meet the demand of the district, and that especially country labourers of both sexes, and male and female domestic servants, are in great request, as well as artizans of all kinds engaged in building. From the results of the previous year he considers that three times the number of Government immigrants would not be more than sufficient to supply the demand; and he calls attention to the fact that comparatively few passenger ships arrive at Geelong, and that the district is consequently almost exclusively dependent upon the labour imported in Government vessels. I append a copy of his report.

23. In the Portland district the demand for immigrants has been quite equal to the supply. The assistant immigration agent states that agricultural labourers have been much needed, and that the squatters at a distance from the port have been dependent in some instances upon the natives for washing, shearing, and shepherding their sheep.

24. I would here call attention to the necessity represented by Dr. Findlay for paying greater attention to the selection of emigrants for each particular district. In the Portland district, for instance, the number of single women imported almost exceeds the demand, whilst a larger proportion of married couples could readily find employment. At Geelong, on the other hand, although every class readily obtains engagement, more single women are required.

25. It is necessary also that the attention of the Land and Emigration Commissioners should be directed to sending ships to Portland during the months of July, August, September, and October, so as to reach the colony during the summer season, when the roads are passable, and the emigrants can with facility be removed to the interior.

26. Arrangements have lately been made under the Regulations submitted and approved on the 1st May, for the reshipment of one-half of the emigrants arriving at Portland to Belfast, and it is anticipated that great advantages will be gained by the employers of labour throughout the Port Fairy District by this much-needed supply.

27. Some alterations and improvements have recently been made in the form of charter-party, by which the expenses of quarantine for an indefinite period, formerly borne by the owners of ships, is now limited to the 14 lay days allowed for disembarkation, half the passage-money being deducted on such emigrants as may die in quarantine during this period.

period. The former arrangement tended, like all undefined liabilities, to raise the contract price for passages in undue proportion to the risk incurred, and the Commissioners have very properly remodelled this clause of the charter-party, to limit the expense of owners to the actual expiry of the contract.

28. During the past year the immigrants arriving in Melbourne and Geelong have all been hired at the respective depôts on shore, thus preventing the expenditure of time and money to which employers were formerly subjected in proceeding to ships. The depôt in Melbourne will require some considerable alterations and repairs; the principal one being the erection of a hiring-room for the single women, in which I hope to be able to classify the immigrants according to their callings, which the want of space has hitherto rendered impracticable, and thus to prevent much of the inconvenience to which the public are at present exposed in engaging servants.

The depôt at Geelong will be sufficient for every purpose for some years to come; but at Portland and Belfast some additions to the present buildings will be necessary to enable the immigrants to be received at once, and hired on shore.

29. The rationing of immigrants in depôt has been carefully attended to, with the view of reducing the cost to as low a price as possible consistently with the health of the immigrants. The net cost to the Government will be shown by the following Table, which includes, in some instances, widows and orphans, and persons in ill-health who have been maintained for a lengthened period :—

	Cost per Statute Adult.
	s. *d.*
Melbourne - - - - - - - -	3 8
Geelong - - - - - - - - -	3 3¾
Portland - - - - - - - - -	6 −¼

30. Under the head of unassisted immigrants are included all persons who arrive in the colony by sea, except soldiers and Government immigrants. Unassisted immigration.

In the Appendix will be found a return classifying the unassisted immigrants during the year 1853, and another of the emigrants from the various ports of the colony, during the same period, showing the following results :—

	Unassisted Immigrants.	Emigrants.
Melbourne - - - - -	74,339	41,021
Geelong - - - - -	3,025	1,276
All other Ports - - - -	370	146
TOTAL - - -	77,734	42,443

A comparison of this Table with that furnished last year for 1852, during which 79,187 persons arrived, and 31,038 left the colony, will show that the tide of immigration had scarcely diminished, whilst the departures had increased by 12,405 souls. The following Table will lead to the conclusion that this had resulted partly from the constant drain on the neighbouring colonies which had taken place in the previous year, and partly from the return of a greater number of persons to the attractions of their homes and farms in Van Diemen's Land and South Australia, more particularly after the first excitement of the gold discoveries had partially subsided.

UNASSISTED IMMIGRANTS.

	1852.	1853.
From the United Kingdom - - - -	28,973	33,032
„ „ Australian Colonies - - -	48,253	35,834
„ „ Other Countries - - - -	1,961	8,868
TOTAL - - -	79,187	77,734

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EMIGRANTS.

	1852.	1853.
To the United Kingdom - - - -	840	3,391
„ Australian Colonies - - - -	30,161	38,355
„ Other Countries - - - -	37	697
TOTAL - - -	31,038	42,443

31. These causes continue still in operation; many persons who, in 1853, swelled the number of immigrants, are now returning to the adjacent colonies, and the balance in favour of Victoria is proportionably smaller than it was when the migration consisted mainly of arrivals. Comparing the first half of the present year with the corresponding half of 1853, the diminution amounts to no less than 8,895 souls, as exhibited in the following Table:—

IMMIGRATION.

	Jan. to June 1853.	Jan. to June 1854.	Decrease.
United Kingdom - - - -	17,950	9,072	
Australian Colonies - - -	20,776	16,157	
Foreign Ports - - - -	4,788	4,177	
TOTAL - -	43,514	29,406	14,108

EMIGRATION.

	Jan. to June 1853.	Jan. to June 1854.	Decrease.
United Kingdom - - - -	1,816	2,524	
Australian Colonies - - -	21,217	13,930	
Foreign Ports - - - -	170	1,536	
TOTAL - - -	23,203	17,990	5,213
BALANCE - -	20,311	11,416	8,895

32. It will be satisfactory to observe, although the contribution to the population of the colony by this means has thus considerably fallen off, that a reaction has now taken place, and that the balance of inter-colonial migration in favour of Victoria during the half-year ending 30th June 1854, amounted to 2,227 persons.

On the other hand, the voluntary immigration from the United Kingdom has diminished by 8,878 souls, whilst the departures for Europe have largely increased. Many causes have combined to bring about this result. Judging from the analogy of California, it was probable that after the first rush to the newly-discovered gold country a temporary lull might be anticipated, and that in proportion as the emigration diminished in volume, it would increase in the elements essential to colonial progress. These expectations have, unfortunately, not been realised. The increased demand for labour, and consequent increased rates of wages obtainable at home, which resulted from the unprecedented emigration, both to America and this colony in 1852 and 1853, have at once checked the tide which would otherwise undoubtedly be flowing to Victoria now, and the present disturbed state of Europe has naturally tended to throw further impediments in the way of emigration. It is remarkable to observe how rapidly these influences have arrested the departure of husbandmen and artisans from Great Britain, notwithstanding the continued attractions of the colony to these classes. From January to June 1853, of voluntary emigrants, 2,072 husbandmen, and 2,244 artisans arrived in the colony; whilst from January to June 1854, only 598 agricultural labourers and 1,129 artisans were added to our population.

33. At

33. At the close of 1852, and during the greater part of 1853, the spontaneous immigration had assumed so gigantic a character that the utmost efforts of the colony, limited as was then the number of its inhabitants, were required to make room for the new comers; and, as regarded house accommodation especially, serious apprehensions were entertained that it would be wholly insufficient. Very great inconvenience, and in some cases positive suffering, ensued; and to the representations made of these hardships, both in private letters and in public prints, may be traced another cause of the diminution of immigration to our shores.

34. It is to the United Kingdom we must look for any permanent accession to our population; but the question whether this immigration will again attain to its former extent, embraces a variety of circumstances, and a field of speculation upon which it is not my province to enter. I apprehend, however, that setting other considerations aside, this will depend not so much upon the attractions which the colony presents (for the masses in England cannot meet the expenses of the passage), as upon the prosperity of individual colonists, pioneers of families now amongst us, and the amounts which they are enabled to remit for the passages of their relatives. It appears from the Thirteenth Report of the Land and Emigration Commissioners, dated in 1853, that the ascertained remittances from America for this purpose during 1852 amounted to 1,404,000 *l.*, having increased from 460,000 *l.* in 1848. A portion of this large sum was no doubt devoted to the outfit and preliminary expenses of the emigrants, but if we estimate these with the passage-money at 5 *l.* each, the remittances would cover the passages of 280,000 persons. The entire emigration to America for the year amounted to 277,134 souls, so that it would appear that not only was the whole expense borne by the colonists in America, but a balance remained in hand for the payment of emigration during the following year. In Victoria sufficient time has not elapsed to put this system fully to the test; that it is in some degree in operation has been shown by the extraordinary increase in the amounts remitted through this office during the latter half of 1852, and it is satisfactory to know that this has been steadily increasing up to the present time; the sum remitted from the 1st January to the 30th June, in the present year, amounting to 3,167 *l.*, of which May and June contributed nearly half. This, however, is no evidence of what may and will be done. The usual obstacles to emigration, such as love of home, the dislike to a strange country, the fear of the sea voyage, and the want of means, the Commissioners justly remark, have long since been smoothed away; the moral obstacles have been overcome by the examples of the thousands who have already ventured, and the want of means will be removed by the liberal remittances we may fairly anticipate.

35. The arrangements made for the convenience, health, and safety of passengers to this colony during the early part of 1853, appear to have been very defective, and to have been little, if at all influenced by the Act passed by the Imperial Parliament. Those clauses which could be applied by the emigration officers in Great Britain were stringently put in operation, but no sooner had a vessel put to sea than the provisions of the Act were in many instances systematically set at defiance. The victuals and water were frequently insufficient, and of inferior quality, the sale of spirits was openly carried on, and the grossest irregularities prevailed. Under these circumstances it was found necessary to continue the system of inspecting each ship on arrival, which had been commenced in 1852, and to take legal proceedings against the masters of vessels in no less than 70 cases, the results of which are given in the accompanying Return, No. XVI., which shows the amount of fine inflicted and of compensation awarded in each case. The effect of these proceedings has been most beneficial. Although the rate of passage-money has not materially risen, as was apprehended, the class of persons employed as masters of ships has much improved, the cleanliness of vessels has been more carefully attended to, and the general health of the passengers has correspondingly benefited. In 70 vessels carrying 3,553 passengers, which arrived in the quarter ending 30th June last, only 17 deaths occurred, a rate of mortality equivalent to about two per cent. per annum, or even less than that of most towns; and not one vessel landed passengers at the quarantine station. The number of prosecutions under the Act is also gradually diminishing, and I am happy to state that in only 18 comparatively unimportant cases has it been found necessary during the present year, up to the 30th June, to take legal steps against the masters of passenger ships.

36. The Colonial Act of Council, 16 Vict., No. 17, to regulate the conveyance of passengers in cases where the Imperial Act does not apply, has been of great service in checking abuses, and throughout 1853 answered the purpose for which it was framed very effectively. The prosecutions which have taken place under its authority will also be seen in the return referred to in the last paragraph.

The passenger rate of 5 *s.* upon each statute adult landed has been duly collected and paid into the Treasury; the amount realised, as shown in return No. XVII., being 9,895 *l.* 2 *s.* 6 *d.* This total includes the rate upon all passengers from the Australian colonies during the year, that upon arrivals from ports east of the Cape of Good Hope to Cape Horn from the 1st July, and that upon passengers from the intermediate countries from the 1st October. Besides the large amount of revenue thus accruing, these collections are valuable in enabling me to test the accuracy of the returns of arrivals.

37. A very large, though I fear not very profitable, addition to our population is now almost daily arriving from China. Up to the 30th June of the present year, no fewer than 2,895 male Chinese were landed in Melbourne (their women, it appears, never emigrate), and as rapidly removed to the gold fields. Up to the present time but one vessel carrying Chinese

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Chinese passengers has left the port, viz., the brig "Rapid" for Singapore, in July, with 19 Chinese, who were returning from the gold fields, having met with considerable success with the expressed intention of chartering a ship to revisit Victoria. The circumstance wa duly reported at the time for your Excellency's information.

38. Return No. XVIII. is a statement of the persons other than Government immigrants, who were received into depôt, and rationed at the expense of the Crown revenue They consisted principally of 50 of the Irish constabulary, who had entered the service of the Colonial Government; of the passengers of the "Earl of Charlemont," which was wrecked at the Barwon Heads; and of the passengers of the "Sir Fowell Buxton," which was wrecked on the coast of Brazil, and who were brought on here by the brig "Richard," chartered by Her Majesty's Consul at Paraiba for that purpose. In each case full reports were furnished for the information of the Lieutenant-governor.

e houseless im-rants' asylums.

39. The houseless immigrants' asylums at Batman's Hill and South Yarra, as will be seen from Return No. XIX. A, have accommodated during the year 1853, 1,477 persons, and the receipts have amounted to 1,974 *l.* 8 *s.* 9 *d.*

The necessity for these establishments, which was so severely felt in 1852 and the early part of 1853, has been gradually diminishing up to the present time. In March last, as will be seen from the same return, marked B., the South Yarra buildings were tenantless, and were consequently closed; and I have lately felt it my duty to recommend to your Excellency that the one at Batman's Hill should also be converted to some other purpose. It was never intended, as was stated in my predecessor's report of last year, that the accommodation thus afforded should be either eleemosynary or permanent, and the gradual diminution in the receipts has shown that the asylums were rapidly acquiring the character of poor, rather than lodging-houses. In closing them, therefore, I have recommended that the cases of real destitution left upon the hands of the Government should still be supported in the Government depôt, out of the monthly allowance made to me for that purpose. I may here mention, although not coming within the province of my own department, that the Houseless Immigrants' Society have also, for the same reasons, closed their doors to the inmates they have been receiving, and have handed over their buildings to the Government, upon repayment to the subscribers of the amounts raised: the objects of the institution having been fully attained.

arantine or itary station.

40. The sanitary station was placed under the charge of the immigration agent on the 1st July 1853.

The situation fixed upon for it in November 1852, at Point Nepean, having a south frontage to the sea and a northern view of Port Phillip Bay, and covering an extent of about one square mile, of dry sandy soil with occasional patches of rich black loam, protected from the south-westerly gales by the sand hummocks at the rear of the buildings, is one which, in point of position and climate, appears to be admirably adapted for the purpose. The anchorage is convenient and safe; a plentiful supply of wood and water, and a soil capable of growing almost every vegetable and medicinal plant, facilities in procuring fish on the station, and supplies from Melbourne and Geelong, are amongst the advantages which were looked to in its selection. The following buildings, consisting of an hospital, a storehouse, and surgeon's and storekeeper's quarters, are in progress, or have been erected at a cost to the Government, up to the end of 1853, of 7,760 *l.* The expenses of the sanitary station have been defrayed from the collections under the Passengers Act, since that enactment came into operation, and the total cost of the establishment for the year ending 30th June, amounted to 14,245 *l.* 3 *s.* 5 *d.*, of which 3,552 *l.* 19 *s.* 5 *d.*, was expended for stores part of which must still remain upon the station.

41. Upon the 17th July, under your Excellency's instructions, the supervision of the establishment was transferred to the principal medical officer, and the accompanying returns are therefore made up to that date. Two hundred and one persons have been rationed on the station during this period, composed of Government immigrants from 11 ships, of whom 65 only were infected and under medical treatment; 54 were cured, and 11 died, four within 24 hours, and one in a few minutes after landing. It appears that only two passenger ships, viz., the "Arabian" and the barque "Ellen," have been placed in quarantine during the above period, but the latter did not land any of her passengers at the station. The principal infectious diseases were fever and scarlatina.

42. I have further to draw attention to the returns, marked numbers XXI., XXII., and XXIII., of wages and prices current in the colony during the year 1853, compiled from returns furnished by the Commissioners of Crown lands in the several districts, similar returns from each of the gold fields of the colony during the same period, and likewise in the city of Melbourne. It will be seen that wages have slightly increased during the year, whilst prices have gradually risen to the height they have now attained.

43. The last return which I have the honour of submitting is a statement of the age, occupation, and disposal of 120 single females, introduced into the colony at the cost of the fund for promoting female emigration, more generally known as Mr. Sidney Herbert's society.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Bell*, Immigration Agent.

— No. 2. —

(No. 12.)

No. 2.
Governor Sir C. Hotham to Sir G. Grey.
11 January 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Charles Hotham*, to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Toorac, near Melbourne, 11 January 1855.
(Received, 7 April 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 15, 30 May 1855, page 78.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit an Act for "Regulating the Conveyance of Passengers to Victoria," passed during the present session.

An Act for regulating the conveyance of passengers to Victoria was passed by the local Legislature, and assented to on behalf of Her Majesty in the session of 1852.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies, his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, considered the third section open to a formal exception, on the ground that one of its provisions assuming to impose a penalty on masters of ships for acts or omissions which had taken place beyond the limits of the colony, exceeded the powers of the Colonial Legislature. A Bill repealing this Act, obviating the objection, and embodying a suggestion which his Grace was pleased to make, that the immigrants' tax should be increased in any case where proper issues of food had not been made, and proper precaution taken for the health of the passengers, was submitted to the Legislative Council. The proposition to raise the immigrants' rate, was considered substantially open to the same objection as that made to the third section, and as it was apprehended that such a proposition might, in the carrying out of its details, be attended with hardship, it was not adopted. The objectionable provision has been expunged, and the Council have availed themselves of the opportunity to amend the former Act in some respects where experience had shown that it was susceptible of improvement.

Despatch No. 131, 6 December 1853. Parliamentary Paper, No. 436, of August 1854, page 137.

In the 18th clause, the words, "with the advice and consent of the Executive Council," have been introduced, and escaped my notice before I had given the Royal Assent to the Act. On drawing the attention of the Attorney-general to this circumstance, he explained that the introduction of the word "consent" had arisen from inadvertence, and as the Act, by my affixing the Royal Assent, had become law, I have not thought it advisable to repeal it by the introduction of another Bill, in which the word "consent" did not appear.

It will be my duty to take care that such a mistake is not again committed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Hotham.*

Enclosure in No. 2.

Encl. in No. 2.

By his Excellency Sir *Charles Hotham*, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, Lieutentant-Governor of the Colony, of Victoria, &c. &c. &c.

No. V.

AN ACT to regulate the Conveyance of Passengers to Victoria. [Assented to 20th November 1854.]

BE it enacted by his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor of Victoria, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows: —

I. If any ship to which "The Passengers' Act, 1852," does not extend shall arrive in any port in Victoria, having on board a greater number of passengers, exclusive of *bonâ fide* cabin passengers, than in the proportion of one passenger for every 12 clear superficial feet, or 72 cubical feet of the space occupied by such passengers, such space being free from stores except the personal luggage of such passengers, and being in all cases allotted on the main deck or the deck immediately below it, not being an orlop deck, or (unless the ship be propelled by steam) having on board a greater number of persons including the master and crew and cabin passengers, than in the proportion of one person to every two tons of the tonnage of such ship, the owner, charterer, or master of such ship shall be liable

Number of passengers ships may carry.

VICTORIA.

on conviction to a penalty not exceeding 5 *l.* for each passenger so carried in excess or improperly.

Passenger ships not to carry certain cargoes.

II. If any ship to which "The Passengers' Act, 1852," does not extend, but carrying a greater number of passengers than in the proportion of one passenger to every 25 tons of the tonnage of such ship, shall arrive in any port in Victoria, having on board as cargo any gunpowder, vitriol, guano, green hides, or any other article likely to have endangered the health or life of the passengers, or having any of her cargo on deck, the owner, charterer, or master of such ship shall be liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding 100 *l.*

Passengers to be supplied with sufficient food, &c.

III. If any ship to which "The Passengers' Act, 1852," does not extend, shall arrive in any port in Victoria, and it shall appear that the master thereof, whilst within the limits of Victoria, has neglected to issue to any passenger a sufficient quantity of water and wholesome provisions (unless such passenger shall have in writing agreed to supply himself with such water or provisions), or if the master of such ship shall, whilst within the said limits, have sold or permitted to be sold to any passenger any spirits or strong waters, the owner, charterer, or master of such ship shall be liable on conviction for every such offence, to a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.*

Proper berths, &c. to be placed in every passenger ship.

IV. If any ship to which "The Passengers' Act, 1852," does not extend shall arrive in any port in Victoria, having more than two tiers of berths on any one deck, or less than six inches interval between the floor of the berths and the deck immediately beneath them, or the berths insecurely constructed, or of dimensions less than after the rate of six feet in length and 18 inches in width for each statute adult, or insufficient in number for the proper accommodation of all the passengers contained in the list of passengers hereby required to be delivered by the master of the ship, the owner, charterer, or master of such ship shall be liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding 5 *l.* for every offence relating to each such berth or passenger.

Passengers to be maintained, and berths not to be taken down for 48 hours after arrival.

V. Every passenger arriving after a voyage exceeding in length 14 days, in any port in Victoria, shall be entitled to remain on board the ship in which he arrived for at least 48 hours next after his arrival, and during that time to be provided for and maintained in the same manner as during the voyage; and no berth occupied by such passenger during the voyage shall be taken down until 48 hours after the arrival of the ship, unless in the further prosecution of her voyage such ship shall quit the port within the last-mentioned period.

Passengers to be landed at ship's expense.

VI. The owner, charterer, or master of every ship shall, upon arrival at any port in Victoria, at the expense of the said ship, land all passengers, together with their personal baggage, at the usual place of disembarkation in such port, unless it shall have been otherwise specially agreed.

Master to afford every facility for inspection, &c.

VII. The master of every ship, upon arrival at any port in Victoria, shall afford to the emigration officer or assistant emigration officer thereat every facility for inspecting such ship, and for communicating with the passengers, and for ascertaining that the provisions of this Act have been duly complied with.

Master to exhibit list of passengers.

VIII. The master of every such ship as aforesaid shall exhibit to such emigration officer or assistant emigration officer as aforesaid the master's list required by "The Passengers' Act, 1852," or if he have no such list, or if the said Act do not extend to such ship, then a list of the passengers, including the cabin passengers, made out according to the form contained in the schedule hereunto annexed, marked (A), and the said officer shall have power to muster the passengers, and to ascertain whether the said list is in all respects true, and shall endorse upon the said list a certificate of the correctness or incorrectness thereof, and of any violations of this Act, or "The Passengers' Act, 1852," which may have been reported to him by any passenger, and also a report specifying whether any of the passengers by the said ship are lunatic, idiotic, deaf, dumb, blind, or infirm, and, if so, whether in the opinion of the said officer they or any of them are likely to become permanently a charge upon the public or upon any public or charitable institution, and shall forthwith return the list so endorsed to the master.

No person to leave ship before inspection.

IX. Until the list of passengers, endorsed as aforesaid, shall have been returned to the master, no person whatever shall be allowed to leave the ship.

Penalties for non-compliance with provisions of Act.

X. If the owner, charterer, or master of any such ship as aforesaid shall neglect to maintain any passenger as herein provided for 48 hours after his arrival, or shall within such time, contrary to the provisions of this Act, take down any berths occupied by passengers during the voyage, or shall refuse to afford such officer as aforesaid every facility for such inspection as is herein required, or shall refuse to exhibit when called upon the list of passengers, or shall wilfully exhibit a false list, or shall permit any person to leave the ship until such list, duly endorsed, shall have been returned to him, or shall refuse or neglect to land such passengers, with luggage as aforesaid, then for every such offence the owner, charterer, or master, as the case may be, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.*

Master to pay a rate of 5*s.* per statute adult.

XI. Within 24 hours after the return of the list as aforesaid, the master shall deliver to the collector, or other principal officer of customs at the port of arrival, such list, endorsed by the emigration officer, and before making entry of the ship, shall pay to the said collector, or other officer, a rate of 5*s.* for every statute adult arrived in such ship, and no entry

entry shall be deemed to be legally made, or to have any legal effect whatever, until such payment shall have been made.

Penalty for non-payment of rate.

XII. If any master shall neglect to pay such rate as aforesaid, such master, or the owner or charterer of such ship, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 100*l.* sterling, in addition to the amount of such rate.

Bond to be given for passengers lunatic, &c.

XIII. If the emigration officer, or assistant emigration officer, shall certify that any passenger shall have arrived in Victoria on board any ship as aforesaid, being either lunatic, idiotic, deaf, dumb, blind, or infirm, and likely in his opinion to become a charge upon the public, or upon any public or charitable institution, the emigration officer shall require the owner, charterer, or master of such ship, within seven days after her arrival, to execute, with two sufficient sureties, jointly and severally, a bond to Her Majesty in the sum of 100*l.* for every such passenger, conditioned to repay to any parish or any public or charitable institution in Victoria, all monies or expenses which shall or may be laid out or incurred within the space of five years from the execution of the said bond, for the maintenance or support of such passenger, and the said sureties shall justify before and to the satisfaction of the said emigration officer, and shall, by their oath or affirmation, satisfy him that they are respectively residents in Victoria, and each worth treble the amount of the penalty of such bond over and above all their liabilities.

Principal Emigration Agent to report as to forfeiture.

XIV. If any passenger for whom any bond shall have been given as aforesaid shall, at any time within five years from the execution thereof, receive maintenance or support from any parish or public or charitable institution in Victoria, the payment incurred for the maintenance and support of such passenger, shall be provided for out of the money collected in or under such bond, to the extent of the penalty therein mentioned, or such portion as shall be required for the payment of such maintenance or support; and it shall be the duty of the principal emigration agent, upon representation made to him, to ascertain the right and claim of any parish, or public or charitable institution to indemnity for the maintenance and support of any such passenger, and to report the same to the Colonial Secretary, and the said report shall be conclusive in the matter, and shall be evidence of the facts therein stated, and such bond may be put in suit, and the penalty, or as much thereof as shall be required to defray the expenses of such maintenance or support, may be recovered by suit or information on behalf of Her Majesty in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Penalty for refusing to execute bond.

XV. If the owner, charterer, or master of any ship on board which such passengers specially reported shall have been carried, shall neglect or refuse to execute a bond as aforesaid, within seven days after being so required as aforesaid, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 100*l.* sterling, in addition to his liability under the said bond, and such ship shall not be cleared out until the said bond shall have been executed, and the said penalties shall have been paid.

Property of persons who have died on voyage to be accounted for.

XVI. If any passenger shall die during any voyage from any port or place out of the limits of Victoria to any port within such limits, and no claim shall be made within seven days after arrival to the money, goods, or effects (if any) of such passenger by some person lawfully entitled thereto, the master shall, within 14 days after arrival, collect and pay over to the emigration officer at the port of arrival, and fully account for all such moneys, goods, and effects, and if the said passenger have died intestate, the said emigration officer shall pay over the same to the curator of intestate estates, and otherwise the said emigration officer shall hold the same in trust for the persons lawfully entitled thereto; and if the master neglect so to collect, pay over, and fully account for such money, goods, or effects, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 100*l.* sterling, in addition to the value of such money, goods, or effects.

Relief of destitute passengers how recovered.

XVII. If any passenger for whom the rate as aforesaid shall have been paid, but for whom no bond as aforesaid shall have been given, shall, within five years after his arrival, receive maintenance or support on account of infirmity or destitution from any parish, or public or charitable institution in Victoria, it shall be lawful for the Lieutenant-governor, upon a report to that effect being presented to the Colonial Secretary by the principal emigration agent, to order the repayment of the cost of maintenance and support of such person out of the monies collected under the authority of this Act.

Moneys levied under this Act how appropriated.

XVIII. All monies levied and received under the authority of this Act shall be paid to such persons, and shall be invested in such manner as may be directed by his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor of Victoria, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, and the interest and dividends thereof, or so much of the same as shall not be required for the purposes hereinafter mentioned, shall be invested in like manner so as to accumulate; and such monies, interest, dividends, and accumulations shall form a fund, to be called "The Immigrants' Fund," and the said fund shall be applied as occasion may require by such officers and under such rules as the said Lieutenant-governor may from time to time appoint, for and towards the maintenance and cure of sick passengers on arrival, the expense of medical attendance, and the relief of destitute passengers, and the repaying of the amount of any monies and expenses laid out or incurred by the colony of

VICTORIA.

Victoria, or any parish, or public, or charitable institution therein, in the maintenance and support, within five years after their arrival, of any passengers for whom the said rates have been paid; and an account of the receipts and expenditure of such monies in each year shall be laid before the Legislative Council of the said colony, within 15 days after the commencement of the next ensuing session thereof..

Rates, &c., how recovered.

XIX. All rates, duties, and penalties imposed by this Act shall be sued for and recovered with costs in a summary manner before any two justices of the peace, or before the police magistrate in the city, town, or place at which the ship by reason whereof such monies shall have become payable, shall have arrived, and in default of immediate payment it shall be lawful for the convicting justices or magistrate to direct that the same be recovered by distress and sale of the goods of the person making such default, or of the owner or charterer of the ship, or that such person, owner, or charterer be imprisoned in some gaol or house of correction for a period not exceeding three months if the penalty shall not exceed 5*l.*, and for a period not exceeding four months if the penalty be above 5*l.* and not above 20*l.*, and for a period not more than six months if the penalty be above 20*l.*; and such person shall be imprisoned accordingly, unless he shall sooner pay the said rate, duty, or penalty, with costs; provided, that no master, owner, or charterer of any ship shall be liable to any rate, duty, or penalty actually paid by any other of them.

No formal information required.

XX. In proceeding for any penalty, rate, duty, or forfeiture under this Act it shall not be necessary to lay or file any formal information, and no complaint, conviction, or other proceeding before or by any justice or justices under this Act shall be quashed or set aside, or deemed void or insufficient for want of form only, or to be removed or removable by certiorari, or any other writ or process whatsoever into the Supreme Court.

No certiorari.

Application of penalties.

XXI. All penalties imposed under this Act shall when recovered be applied to the purposes to which the other monies levied under the authority thereof are appropriated; provided, that it shall be lawful for the justices of the peace or police magistrate as aforesaid, who shall impose any such penalty at the same time to direct that a part not exceeding one moiety thereof be employed to compensate any passenger for any wrong or damage which he may have sustained by the Act, or default in respect of which such penalty may have been imposed.

Act not to extend to Government immigrants, &c.

XXII. This Act, except such portions thereof as apply to the property of persons who may have died on the voyage, shall not extend to immigrants brought to Victoria at the public expense, nor to shipwrecked mariners brought to Victoria without charge by the master of some other ship than that in which they were wrecked, nor to the crews of ships who shall have signed articles for the whole voyage, nor to Her Majesty's land and sea forces.

Repeal of 16 Vict., No. 17.

XXIII. From and after the commencement of this Act, an Act of the Lieutenant-governor and Legislative Council of Victoria, passed in the sixteenth year of the reign of Her present Majesty Queen Victoria, intituled, "An Act to regulate the conveyance of Passengers to the Colony of Victoria," shall be and the same is hereby repealed; provided, that nothing in this Act contained shall be taken to prevent any bond given under the said repealed Act from being put in suit, and the penalty from being recovered, and applied as therein mentioned; and "The Emigrant Fund" mentioned in the said repealed Act, shall form part of and be applied as is herein directed respecting the said "Immigrants' Fund" hereinbefore mentioned, and all other rates, duties, penalties, and other monies, either now or hereafter to be recovered or taken under the said repealed Act and not otherwise already appropriated, shall be applied as if the same had been received or recovered under this Act.

Interpretation clause.

XXIV. The word "master" whenever used in this Act shall be held to apply to any person in the command of a ship; the word "passenger" shall include all passengers; the word "ship" shall include all British or foreign navigable vessels of any kind carrying passengers except vessels plying from any one port in Victoria to any other port therein, and except Her Majesty's ships of war or transports in the service of the East India Company, and ships in the service of the Commissioners for executing the office of High Admiral; the words "statute adults" shall include every person above the age of 14 years, and every two children, each being under the age of 14 years and not under the age of one year; and the word "tonnage" shall signify tonnage calculated according to the new measurement.

Commencement of Act.

XXV. This Act shall commence and take effect from and after the first day of January, which will be in the year of our Lord 1855.

Schedule (A).

PASSENGERS' LIST.

List of Passengers who have arrived at the Port of on the
day of 185 , from on board
the ship, Master, Tons register.

	Names of Passengers.	AGES.								State whether British Subjects or Foreigners.
		Adults.				Children.				
		Married.		Single.		14—1.		Infants.		
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number of Superficial feet in passengers' deck.										
Greatest number of statute adults, exclusive of master, crew, and cabin passengers the ship can legally carry.										
Total - - -										

SUMMARY.

	Number of Passengers.								Equal to Statute Adults.
	Adults.				Children.				
	Married.		Single.		14—1.		Infants.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
British Subjects - - -									
Foreigners - - - -									
Total - - -									

We hereby certify that the above is a correct list of the names and descriptions of all the passengers who have arrived at the port of

(signed) Master.

(countersigned) Emigration Officer.

VICTORIA.

No. 3.
Governor
Sir C. Hotham
to Sir G. Grey.
12 January 1855.

— No. 3. —

(No. 14.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Charles Hotham* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Toorac, near Melbourne, 12 January 1855.
(Received, 7 April 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 2, 3 May 1855, page 77.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit the accompanying petition from the inhabitants of the town of Geelong on the subject of Irish female immigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Hotham.*

Enclosure in No. 3.

Encl. in No. 3.

To the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart., Secretary for the Colonies, &c. &c. &c.

Respectfully showeth,

THAT we, the undersigned inhabitants of Geelong and its vicinity, in the colony of Victoria, having perused with strong feelings of disapproval certain statements in two of the colonial newspapers, emanating from the proprietors of registry offices, prejudicial to the character of a useful and deserving class of female immigrants, beg most respectfully to draw your attention to the said statements, calculated as they are (if left unnoticed) to convey an erroneous impression to the home Government respecting the existing requirements of this colony.

The following paragraph containing the matter adverted to appeared in the report of the labour market in the "Geelong Advertiser," of 16 October ultimo:

"As a general rule, the description of female domestics usually sent to this colony are anything but suited to its requirements, the great majority being Irish, and although well adapted for farm-houses, are wholly useless in town."

In a similar report on the state of the labour market, published in the summary for Europe per "Norna," issued by the "Age," 24 November (a Melbourne paper), it states, that

"There is at present a miserable class of female servants in the colony, principally raw Irish country girls, totally unfit for house service."

Our reasons for laying before you the foregoing allegations are—

Firstly. That the report of the labour markets containing aspersions on the general efficiency of Irish female immigrants, having been transmitted to Great Britain in the home summary, will, in all probability, be received as a true exposition of the feelings of the colonists generally, which it is not.

Secondly. That, if allowed to remain uncontradicted, a wrong inference may be drawn by the home emigration authorities, and thereby retard or cause the total withdrawal from Irishwomen of the benefit of assisted emigration.

Thirdly. That, in the event (no improbable one) of the acceptance in Great Britain as authentic of the reports above quoted, the country of our adoption may be either partially or wholly deprived of the advantages arising from the introduction of a class so well adapted to its wants, and who, as a general rule, have ever been characterised by virtuous conduct, domestic habits, and steady industry.

Desiring, as we do, to deprecate any invidious distinctions which may seriously militate against the welfare of Victoria, we beg to repudiate as most unfounded and insulting to the Irish female immigrants the above quoted assertions, and respectfully urge on you (trusting, as we ever can, to your liberality and independence) the necessity of bearing in mind, in any communication made to you by the Emigration Board, that the people require and approve of the class of emigrants that arrive in this colony from Ireland.

We have, &c.

(22 signatures.)

— No. 4. —

No. 4.
Governor Sir C. Hotham to Sir G. Grey.
1 February 1855.

(No. 24.)

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Charles Hotham* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Toorac, near Melbourne, 1 February 1855.
(Received, 12 May 1855.)

Sir,

In reply to your despatch,* No. 27, of the 30th September 1854, stating that the Land and Emigration Commissioners had informed you than an amount of Ninty-two thousand three hundred and eighty pounds, Nineteen shillings (92,380 *l.* 19 *s.*), which Mr. Foster in a despatch, No. 72, of the 20th May 1854 intimated would be transmitted for the purposes of emigration, by the mail which conveyed the despatch, had not been then received by them; I have the honour to enclose a copy of a letter from the secretary to the Commissioners, acknowledging the receipt of drafts to that amount, and which must have been received subsequent to the representation made by the Commissioners.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Session 1855, page 48.

Letter of Secretary

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Hotham.*

Enclosure in No. 4.

Encl. in No. 4.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office, Park-street,
Westminster, 20 October 1854.

Sir,

I am directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th of May last, enclosing drafts on London banks, as per margin, to the amount of 92,380 *l.* 19 *s.*, being the last instalment of a sum of 300,000 *l.* forwarded to the Commissioners by the Government of Victoria, for the purposes of emigration to that colony.

Bank of Australasia, No. 18,101, £. 40,000, 17 May 1854.
Union Bank of Australia, No. 17,481, £. 30,000, 17 May 1854.
Bank of N. S. Wales No. C. 3,320, £. 22,380. 19., 17 May 1854.

The full sum has not, as you observe, been received by the Commissioners, deduction having been made, as the charges for exchange, to the amount of 7,619 *l.* 1 *s.*

I have, &c.
(signed) *S. Walcott,*
Secretary.

J. Moore, Esq.,
Acting Colonial Secretary, Melbourne.

— No. 5. —

No. 5.
Governor Sir C. Hotham to Sir G. Grey.
14 February 1855.

(No. 31.)

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Charles Hotham* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Toorac, near Melbourne, 14 February 1855.
(Received, 21 May 1855.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 21, 12 June 1855, page 79.)

I have the honour to transmit herewith, as required by Lord Stanley's letter of the 22d March 1845, a return of the immigrants who have arrived in this colony during the year 1854.

Return of Immigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Hotham.*

Enclosure in No. 5.

RETURN classifying the IMMIGRANTS who have Arrived in the Colony of Victoria from Ports in the United Kingdom, during the Year 1854.

NATIVE COUNTRY.	Nature and Extent of Assistance Afforded.	NUMBERS LANDED.									DEATHS ON THE VOYAGE.								
		14 Years and Upwards.		Under 14 Years but not under 12 months.		Under 12 Months.		TOTAL.			14 Years and Upwards.		Under 14 Years but not under 12 Months.		Under 12 Months.		TOTAL.		
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Assisted:																			
England and Wales	The whole or part of the passage-money was in all cases defrayed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners out of the Land Fund of the Colony.	1,447	2,278	479	780	93	158	2,019	3,216	5,235	19	40	42	77	37	30	98	147	245
Scotland		1,235	1,999	432	616	92	118	1,759	2,733	4,492									
Ireland		1,194	4,060	420	758	64	95	1,678	4,913	6,591									
Other Countries		–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–									
TOTAL Assisted Immigration		3,876	8,337	1,331	2,154	249	371	5,456	10,862	16,318	19	40	42	77	37	30	98	147	245
Unassisted:																			
England and Wales		14,113	4,526	1,730	1,462	392	236	16,235	6,224	22,459	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Scotland		2,942	1,038	464	359	94	51	3,500	1,448	4,948	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ireland		2,140	575	210	167	52	23	2,402	765	3,167	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Other Countries		1,100	110	71	35	5	–	1,176	145	1,321	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL Unassisted Immigration		20,295	6,249	2,475	2,023	543	310	23,313	8,582	31,895	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
GRAND TOTAL		24,171	14,506	3,806	4,177	792	681	28,769	19,444	48,213	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

NATIVE COUNTRY.	BIRTHS ON THE VOYAGE.			Number of Agricultural Labourers.	Number of Shepherds.	Number of Domestic Servants.		Number of Mechanics engaged in Erecting Buildings, or in obtaining or preparing Building Materials.	Number of other Mechanics.	Number of Tradespeople Engaged in Preparing or Selling Articles of Food.		Number of Tradespeople Engaged in making or Selling Articles of Clothing.		Number of other Persons not included in the foregoing Columns.		Number of Ships Arrived with Immigrants.	Average Length of the Voyage.
	Male.	Female.	Total.			Male.	Female.			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		
Assisted:																	
England and Wales	109	115	224	503	12	3	865	740	113	13	2	14	77	621	2,272	48	96
Scotland				696	57	1	1,028	343	104	4	2	12	27	542	1,676	1	
Ireland				1,055	23	6	2,883	61	23	1	3	6	35	503	1,992	–	
Other Countries				–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
TOTAL Assisted Immigration	109	115	224	2,254	92	10	4,776	1,144	240	18	7	32	139	1,666	5,940	49	96
Unassisted:																	
England and Wales	–	–	–	1,958	128	69	65	1,476	769	431	2	423	31	10,981	6,126	277	
Scotland	–	–	–	736	83	23	8	518	267	134	–	110	3	1,629	1,437	63	
Ireland	–	–	–	1,078	17	4	1	93	76	30	–	28	–	1,076	764	3	
Other Countries	–	–	–	257	–	5	2	59	50	15	–	11	–	779	143	1	
TOTAL Unassisted Immigration	–	–	–	4,029	228	101	76	2,146	1,162	610	2	572	34	14,465	8,470	344	
GRAND TOTAL	–	–	–	6,283	320	111	4,852	3,290	1,402	628	9	604	173	16,131	14,410	393	

Remarks.—The Passenger Lists during 1854 were, in many instances, extremely imperfect.

Immigration Office, Melbourne,
10 February 1855.

(signed) *Alfred J. Agg*,
Acting Immigration Agent.

— No. 6. —

No. 6.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Charles Hotham* to the Right Hon. Lord *John Russell*; dated Toorac, near Melbourne, 2 July 1855. (No. 86.)
(Received, 22 October 1855.)

Governor Sir C. Hotham to Lord J. Russell, 2 July 1855.

* * * * *

18 Vict., No. 25.—*Passenger's Luggage.*

"NEWLY arrived immigrants it was found were frequently distressed by the neglect and carelessness of masters of vessels in the delivery of luggage and tools of trade; the delay thus occasioned, entailing much hardship and loss.

"The present Act was passed with a view to remedy the evil, by making it compulsory on the masters of vessels, to maintain the passengers until the luggage and tools of trade have been delivered; a strong inducement is thus presented for the exercise of the utmost expedition. In the event of non-delivery within seven days, a remedy by summary process, is given to the immigrant." Sect. 1. Sect. 3.

Enclosure in No. 6. Encl. in No. 6.

By his Excellency Sir *Charles Hotham*, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, Lieutenant-Governor of the Colony of Victoria, &c. &c. &c.

No. XXV.

AN ACT* to facilitate the delivery of Passengers' Luggage and Tools of Trade from Ships arriving in the Colony of Victoria from the United Kingdom or Foreign Ports. [Assented to 22d March 1855.]

WHEREAS serious loss and inconvenience are sustained by Passengers to the colony of Victoria by reason of the neglect and delay of owners or masters of ships in the delivery of personal luggage or tools of trade; Be it therefore enacted, by his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor of Victoria, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:— Preamble.

I. From and after the passing of this Act it shall be compulsory on all owners and masters of ships arriving with passengers in any port in Victoria to maintain and support on board all such passengers until they shall have delivery made to them respectively of all personal luggage and tools of trade on board such ship, and such delivery shall not in any case be delayed more than seven days after arrival in port. Masters to support passengers until delivery of luggage. Luggage to be delivered within seven days.

II. In the event of a passenger not being maintained, or such delivery as aforesaid not being made within the time specified, it shall be lawful for any passenger or agent of such passenger, authorised in writing to make complaint on oath against the owner or master before any justice of the peace, and such justice is hereby authorised and required to issue a summons requiring the attendance of the owner or master to answer such complaint, and thereupon it shall be lawful for any two justices to hear and determine in a summary way any such complaint, and to award such damages for such detention, and such costs as to them may seem just and reasonable; provided, however, that the sum awarded shall not in any case exceed the sum of twenty-five pounds. Penalty.

III. If after the expiration of seven days from the first adjudication by justices such luggage or tools of trade shall not have been duly delivered to the passenger or his agent, it shall be lawful for such passenger or his agent to renew his complaint, and thereupon such justices may order the delivery of such goods or tools within forty-eight hours, and failing such delivery, and on proof thereof, and that application has been personally made by the passenger or his agent for delivery thereof, the justices may proceed to ascertain the value of such luggage or tools of trade, and make their award by way of value and compensation for the loss thereof accordingly, such sum awarded not exceeding twenty-five pounds. Application may be renewed after seven days. If delivery not made within 48 hours, justices to inquire into value of property and award value and compensation.

IV. If the owner or master of any ship shall neglect or refuse to pay such sum awarded and costs, the same may be recovered by distress and sale of his goods and chattels, and in the event of no sufficient distress being found, by imprisonment of the owner or master of the said ship for a period not exceeding three months. Award may be recovered by distress and sale. Failing sufficient distress, imprisonment substituted.

V. Proceedings may in all cases be taken against the master or owner of such ship, and such costs in all cases awarded as to the adjudicating justices may seem meet, either for the plaintiff or defendant. Master or owner liable.

VI. Any

* Her Majesty's Assent to this Act conveyed by Mr. Labouchere's despatch, No. 44, 26 Dec. 1855.

Complaining party debarred other remedy.

VI. Any person making complaint under this Act is and shall be debarred any other remedy now allowed by law for the recovery of such goods, if the justices adjudicating shall so order, and such order may be pleaded in bar to any action, suit, or proceeding for or relating to such goods or freight against such owner or master of such vessel.

Summary proceedings, no certiorari.

VII. All proceedings under this Act shall be had and taken in a summary way, and no such proceedings shall be removed by certiorari into the Supreme Court of the said colony.

— No. 7. —

No. 7. Governor Sir C. Hotham to Lord J. Russell. 7 August 1855.

(No. 102.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Charles Hotham* to the Right Honourable *Lord John Russell.*

Toorac, near Melbourne, 7 August 1855.

My Lord, (Received, 29 November 1855.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Sidney Herbert's despatch,* No. 6, of the 24th February 1855, conveying to me the suggestions of the Land and Emigration Commissioners with reference to a penalty for breaches of charter-parties in emigrant vessels; and in reply, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the suggestions of the Commissioners have been communicated to the Immigration Boards of Melbourne, Geelong and Portland, and that they will for the future be complied with.

* Page 75.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Hotham.*

— No. 8. —

No. 8. Governor Sir C. Hotham to Lord J. Russell. 29 August 1855.

(No. 112.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Charles Hotham* to the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell.*

Toorac, near Melbourne, 29 August 1855.
(Received, 29 December 1855.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 12. 29 January 1856, page, 84.)

Annual Report.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the annual report of the immigration agent of this colony for the year 1854, accompanied by detailed statistical appendices.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Hotham.*

Encl. in No. 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

REPORT.*

Sir, Immigration Office, Melbourne, 31 July 1855.

I DO myself the honour to submit for your Excellency's consideration the following report upon immigration and emigration for the year 1854.

2. In it are embodied such leading facts and notices as have hitherto been annually furnished by the Immigration office, and can be obtained from the several returns which are compiled throughout the year. I have endeavoured to preserve the same order in arranging the materials of the report as has been adhered to by my predecessors, with the approval of your Excellency.

3. Though I was only called upon to conduct the department temporarily during the course of the current month, I trust that the efficiency of the officers permanently engaged in it will enable me to present the requisite information in a proper shape. I may add, that a close adherence in an annual report to one general form presents great facilities for reference.

4. Return

* The Appendices to this Report being very voluminous are not printed.

4. Return No. 1 in the Appendix shows that the total importation of assisted immigrants in 1854 was, of souls, 16,318; of statute adults, 13,955·5. Compared with previous years the importation stands thus:—

YEAR.	Males.	Females.	Total Souls.
Six months of 1851 - - -	1,082	905	1,987
In 1852 - - -	7,762	7,715	15,477
In 1853 - - -	5,236	9,342	14,578
In 1854 - - -	5,456	10,862	16,318
TOTAL of 3 ½ Years - - -	19,536	28,824	48,360

There has been a remarkable diminution of the mortality in the course of the three years during which immigration has been considerable, proving the great advantages which are derived from the uniformity of superintendence which is brought about by the Land and Emigration Commissioners in availing themselves of the numerous detailed reports which they obtain from all parts of the realm. The per-centage of mortality, the length of voyage, and the tonnage of the vessels employed, stand thus:—

YEAR.	Number of Ships.	Average Tonnage.	Average Days at Sea.	Average Rate of Mortality.	REMARKS.
Six months of 1851 -	7	750	102	1·86	No vessels placed in quarantine.
In 1852 -	42	827	105	5·5	4 „
In 1853 -	44	797	107	3·6	9 „
In 1854 -	49	919·7	95·6	1·47	4 „

These figures tend to prove that the employment of vessels of large tonnage, with one passenger deck, both shortens the voyage and diminishes mortality; facts which my predecessors have dwelt upon, and which the returns for 1854 strongly confirm. Of the total deaths in 1854, there were 67 infants, 119 children between the ages of 1 and 14, and only 59 adults, or nearly ·481 per cent. upon the total number of adults embarked.

The mortality in ships with Government emigrants, now that the use of two passenger decks is abandoned, has not reached among the adults the rate of 1·84 per cent. on the year, as is shown by the following formula:—

95·6 : 365 :: ·481 : 1·834.

I may point out this result as signally gratifying, when the space and variety of latitudes to be sailed over are taken into consideration.

I would recommend generally that vessels of from 700 to 900 tons, with only one passenger deck, be still employed, and that 300 be the maximum of passengers to be carried. When ships of larger tonnage are employed, the additional space is a security for the health of the passengers, and the shipowners are not sufferers, inasmuch as their vessels then carry several hundred tons of cargo.

5. The number of births on board emigrant ships was 224, of which 109 were males and 115 females.

6. Forty-nine ships have arrived with immigrants at the following ports:—

	Ships.	Souls.
Melbourne - - - - -	25	8,795
Geelong - - - - - -	13	4,269
Portland - - - - - -	11	3,254
TOTAL - - -	49	16,318

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This distribution I would not propose to adhere to in 1856. A reference to Return No. 12 will show how great a proportion of unassisted immigration finds its way to Melbourne, thereby rendering it less necessary to provide immigration to that port by means of the public funds. I would recommend that ships should thus be despatched in 1856, say to—

	Ships.	Adults.	Souls.
Melbourne - - -	13	{averaging about -} 300	{and bringing, say - -} 4,000
Geelong - - - -	13	„ 300	„ 4,000
Portland - - - -	5	„ 300	„ 1,500
Belfast - - - -	5	„ 300	„ 1,500
TOTAL - - -	36		„ 11,000

In making the last suggestion, I am adopting the arrangements already entered into, under your Excellency's sanction, for the construction of a depôt at Belfast, and the reception of immigrants direct from England at that port. It is found that the expense of distributing immigrants to the outports, added to the original cost of carriage to Port Phillip, far outweighs the expense of shipping them direct, under charter-party, from Europe. As it may be found impracticable to keep the proportion of families in all cases under 10 to 100 single women, it should be so managed, if possible, that ships containing the larger number of families may be despatched to Portland and Belfast, rather than to Melbourne or Geelong, single women finding homes more rapidly at the latter towns. The ships should be despatched to Portland and Belfast so as to arrive alternately, if possible, at intervals during the summer months. Whenever circumstances permit the proper construction of wharves, &c. at Welshpool, Gipps' Land, where there is draught of water for large vessels, it would, in my opinion, be advisable to send immigrants direct from England to that important district.

7. The number of female (assisted) immigrants greatly exceeds that of the males. The excess is shown by the following Table:—

YEAR.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Excess: Females.	Excess: Males.	Final Result in favour of Females.
Six months of 1851 -	1,082	905	1,987	- -	177	
In 1852 - - -	7,762	7,715	15,477	- -	47	
In 1853 - - -	5,236	9,342	14,578	4,106	—	
In 1854 - - -	5,456	10,862	16,318	5,406	—	
TOTAL - - -	19,536	28,824	48,360	9,512	224	9,288

This desirable result, to attain which the efforts of the Commissioners in England, as well as of the colony itself, have been uniformly directed since the attraction of a large voluntary immigration of adult males to our shores, has been brought about, not only by the immigration of single females, but by care in selecting families in which the boys have been fewer in number than the girls.

While the excess of adult females, as compared with adult males, was, in 1854, 4,461, a careful selection of families, in the manner alluded to, has augmented the difference to 5,406, showing an addition by this means of 945 souls, or rather more than 21 per cent. upon the excess of adult females.

I would suggest that the proportion of females might be still further augmented, with benefit to the colony, in the following manner.

It is found necessary for the maintenance of proper moral discipline to have a certain number of immigrant families in each ship which brings single women. This proportion should not, so far as past experience can guide, be less than 10 families to 100 single women. The married men act as constables and assistants throughout the voyage in keeping order. Inasmuch as the characters of these people are unknown, more are shipped than would really be necessary for the performance of the work they have to do. When one man is disrated, there must be others on board from whom to make selection of a substitute. If,

as

as much as possible, pensioners of good character were given a preference for assisted passages, the number of men to be introduced at the cost of the colony would be diminished, and the habits of discipline of the men on board would be found most useful. In this manner the number of families might safely be diminished from 10 in the 100 to 8 in the 100 single women.

8. Under such arrangements, I think that the total assisted immigration might well be limited during 1856 to 11,000 or 12,000 persons, which would form a charge of about 220,000 *l.* or 240,000 *l.* on the year, or less if the contract price per head should materially be decreased. Moreover, these arrangements would secure a lasting provision for such relatives of wounded soldiers or sailors as might wish to immigrate, and would be in the shape of a public though not a charitable contribution from the colony for the general objects of the Patriotic Fund.

As the proportion of females to males in Great Britain has maintained an increasing ratio throughout the last half century (the excess in 1851 being 349,871), all the efforts which may be made to equalize the sexes in Victoria will be the means of conferring mutual benefits on the mother country and the colony.

9. The successive reports made by the Immigration Board throughout the year 1854, have shown that the characters of the generality of the surgeons-superintendent, have well fitted them for the arduous duties for which they have been selected. The value of the services which these gentlemen perform, when they succeed throughout a long voyage in maintaining discipline, enforcing cleanliness, preserving health, and not unfrequently in obtaining the affectionate esteem of the numerous passengers committed to their care, can hardly be overrated, and I cordially join in the recommendation made by the immigration agent in his report for the year 1853, that, subject to the usual guards as to efficiency of service, there be placed at the disposal of each surgeon-superintendent, the full amount of his passage-money to the United Kingdom, if he return thither without delay. For remarkably successful voyages, the scale of remuneration might well be further increased.

10. The cost to the colony of each immigrant was greater in 1854 than in any previous year, as is shown by the following Table of the contract price and actual cost in each year, the difference between these two rates being caused by the varying numbers of emigrants in large and small ships:—

YEAR.	Contract Price.	Actual Cost.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
In 1851 - - - - -	10 5 6	10 8 4½
In 1852 - - - - -	14 17 4	14 7 7
In 1853 - - - - -	17 9 9	17 5 7
In 1854 - - - - -	20 6 6	20 8 –

The contract price on the year has averaged higher at Geelong and Portland than at Melbourne by 1 *l.* 11 *s.* 1 *d.*; an amount not equal to the usual cost of transhipment from one port to another after arrival.

As a necessary consequence of the diminished mortality, the average amount (when distributed on the arrivals throughout the year) of half passage-money paid upon emigrants who died on the voyage has fallen in the following manner:—

	s.	d.	
1851 - - - - - -	1	–½	per statute adult.
1852 - - - - - -	5	2	„
1853 - - - - - -	3	6	„
1854 - - - - - -	1	8	„

The average amount of gratuities to surgeons, officers, constables, and others, was 1 *l.* 1 *s.* per statute adult on the arrivals. The total cost, including maintenance for 14 days after arrival was 2½ *l.* 10 *s.* 8 *d.*, and the average passage-money paid being 20 *l.* 8 *s.*, it is shown that the extra cost of each immigrant was only 1 *l.* 2 *s.* 8 *d.* I am persuaded that this will be found to be a creditable result, on comparison with other Tables; and, in passing, I may remark that the cost to the neighbouring colony, New South Wales, was, during the same period, contract price 20 *l.* 19 *s.* 1 *d.*; total cost charged, inclusive of all expenses, 22 *l.* 5 *s.* 7¾ *d.*

The cost per statute adult during the present year (1855) has fallen considerably, the contract price up to the 30th June having averaged less than 18 *l.* The total of souls imported as compared with the statute adults is as follows:—

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	Souls.	Statute Adults.
Half-year of 1851 - - - -	1,987	1,750
„ in 1852 - - - -	15,477	12,590
„ in 1853 - - - -	14,578	12,242
„ in 1854 - - - -	16,318	13,955·5

(two children between 1 and 14 years of age being reckoned as one statute adult). There were, therefore, 1,365·5 more statute adults introduced in 1854 than in any previous year.

11. Returns Nos. II. and III. show the sex and condition of the assisted immigrants in 1854. They are as follows:—

Country.	——	Males.	——	Females.	Total.
From England and Wales and Islands - - -	Married - 1,299 Single - 720	2,019	Married - 1,292 Single - 1,924	3,216	5,235
From Scotland - - -	Married - 922 Single - 837	1,759	Married - 918 Single - 1,815	2,733	4,492
From Ireland - - -	Married - 886 Single - 792	1,678	Married - 885 Single - 4,028	4,913	6,591
	Totals - - -	5,456	- - - -	10,862	16,318

Finding that the immigration agent expressed, in 1854, his regret that selections should have been made so largely from the Irish Unions in the cases of single women, and knowing that as a rule it has been deemed no less wise than just, both to the parent country and to the colony, to select immigrants in numbers bearing a due proportion to the several portions of the United Kingdom; viz. England, Scotland, and Ireland, I am constrained to observe that no such just proportion is discernible in the foregoing Tables; but I reserve a detailed investigation of the matter for a subsequent portion of my report.

12. Return No. IV. shows the religious persuasions of the immigrants, which may be classed as follows:

Denomination.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Roman-catholics - - -	1,549	4,564	6,113
Church of England - - -	1,750	2,925	4,675
Presbyterians - - - -	1,792	2,771	4,563
Wesleyans - - - -	189	329	518
Other Protestants - - -	176	273	449
Total - - -	5,456	10,862	16,318

13. The results of this Return (showing the occupation of the assisted immigrants) are as follows:

Occupation.	Male.	Females.
Agricultural labourers - - - - -	2,254	—
Shepherds - - - - - - -	92	—
Domestic servants - - - - -	10	4,776
Mechanics (building) - - - - -	1,144	—
Other Mechanics - - - - - -	240	—
Tradespeople (in articles of food) - - -	18	7
„ (in articles of clothing) - -	32	139
Married women, children under 14, and others not included.	1,666	5,940
Totals - - -	5,456	10,862

14. In

14. In Returns VI., VII., VIII., will be found the state of education of the immigrants from England, Ireland, and Scotland, viewed with regard to their religious persuasions, and the attainments of all, so far as reading and writing are concerned; the immigrants for each country being divided for educational purposes into five classes as to their ages, exclusive of children under the age of one year. The per centage of immigrants able to read and write is slightly less than in the previous year, when it was remarked that "the proportion of educated persons was much above former averages."

The subject of education being one to which my attention has been for some time strongly drawn, I shall here present a closer analysis of the returns compiled in the immigration department than has hitherto been given; a procedure for which I hope I shall stand excused, when the intimate connexion of ignorance with crime is brought to recollection. There were—

EDUCATION.	In 1853.			In 1854.		
	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
Immigrants who could read and write	2,894	4,947	7,841	3,356	5,274	8,630
Immigrants who could read only -	653	1,745	2,398	614	2,310	2,924
Immigrants who could neither read nor write - - - - -	1,689	2,650	4,339	1,486	3,278	4,764
TOTALS - - -	5,326	9,342	14,578	5,456	10,862	16,318

As displayed by the immigrants from each country, education stands thus:—

COUNTRY.	Read and Write.		Read only.		Neither Read nor Write.		TOTAL.
England and Wales and Islands	Males - 1,375 / Females 2,072	3,447	Males - 219 / Females - 475	694	Males - 425 / Females - 669	1,094	5,235
Scotland - - - - -	Males - 1,144 / Females 1,696	2,840	Males - 165 / Females - 393	558	Males - 450 / Females - 644	1,094	4,492
Ireland - - - - -	Males - 837 / Females 1,506	2,343	Males - 230 / Females 1,442	1,672	Males - 611 / Females 1,965	2,576	6,591
TOTAL - - -	- - -	8,630	- - -	2,924	- - -	4,764	16,318

The members of each religious denomination were educated as follows:—

DENOMINATION.	Read and Write.	Read only.	Neither.	Total.
Church of England - - -	3,058	612	1,005	4,675
Roman-catholic - - - -	2,075	1,559	2,479	6,113
Presbyterian - - - -	2,891	579	1,093	4,563
Wesleyan - - - - -	324	96	98	518
Other Protestants - - - -	282	78	89	449
TOTALS - - -	8,630	2,924	4,764	16,318

Of the total immigration, the per centage of arrivals from each country, and the per centage of education amongst those arrivals stand thus:—

COUNTRY.	Per Centage on Total Immigration.	Per Centage of Education amongst the Immigrants arriving from each Country.			
		Read and Write.	Read only.	Neither Read nor Write.	Total unable to Read and Write.
England and Wales and Islands -	·321	·658	·133	·209	·342
Scotland - - - - -	·275	·632	·124	·244	·368
Ireland - - - - -	·404	·356	·254	·390	·644

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Of the total immigration the per centage of arrivals of members of the several religious denominations, and the per centage of the different degrees of education are thus shown:—

Religion.	Per Centage on Total Immigration.	Per Centage of Education amongst the Immigrants of each Denomination.			
		Read and Write.	Read only.	Neither Read nor Write.	Total unable to Read and Write.
Church of England - - -	·286	·655	·130	·215	·345
Presbyterians - - - -	·280	·634	·127	·239	·366
Wesleyans - - - - -	·032	·626	·185	·189	·374
Other Protestants - - -	·027	·629	·173	·198	·371
Roman-catholics - - -	·375	·339	·255	·406	·661

Now as England, with a population of 18,070,735 in 1851, has furnished actually ·321 per cent. of immigrants, or less than one-third of the total immigration; as Scotland, with a population of 2,288,742 in 1851, has furnished ·275 per cent., or more than one-fourth; and as Ireland, with a population of 6,553,178 in 1851, has furnished ·404 per cent., or about two-fifths; and as the due proportions were—

From England - - - - ·657 or nearly two-thirds;
From Scotland - - - - ·105 or about one-tenth;
From Ireland - - - - ·238 or less than a fourth;

it follows that England has furnished less than half of the immigrants she should; that Scotland has furnished more than twice as many as she should; and that Ireland has furnished two-thirds more than she should.

15. In speaking of education, I shall now designate as ignorant those who cannot read and write. Practically, those who cannot write, can read to little purpose; and my assumption is, in the main, a just one. The difference in education of immigrants from England and Scotland being only ·016 per cent. in favour of England, I shall dismiss it as a matter of excess of numbers only, for subsequent remark; but the condition of the Irish immigrants cannot be so considered. Ireland has furnished two-thirds more immigrants than she should; and of those she has furnished, two-thirds cannot read and write. It would be unnatural for any one who has interested himself in the education of the people, to pass over so glaring a fact. If ignorant persons come voluntarily to the colony, I presume no word would be raised against their coming; but it is preposterous to suppose that it can be beneficial to pay 141,926 *l.* for the importation of 6,591 souls from Ireland, two-thirds of whom have not the intelligence guaranteed by the ability to read and write. In the above Tables, it is shown that the number of members of the Church of England is nearly identical with the number of immigrants from England; the number of Presbyterians nearly identical with the number of immigrants from Scotland; and the number of Roman-catholics nearly identical with the number of immigrants from Ireland; and that the distribution of ignorance is coincident as to religion and as to country. But as I furnish these facts merely for information, I shall not remark upon them.

It may be mentioned that the amount of ignorance is slightly exaggerated, so far as regards the inclusion of children too young to read and write; but as I have no means of ascertaining the exact number of children so circumstanced, and as the exaggeration bears equally against immigrants from each country, the aggregate figures are taken, attention being called to their use.

I by no means wish to assert that Ireland cannot supply an immigration as intelligent as that which comes from England and Scotland. If she can do so, the colony has greater reason to complain that improper selection has been made. If she cannot, there are evident grounds for insisting that her due proportion, on the whole, be not exceeded. Moreover, it is unfair to Ireland herself that she should be judged by a class of immigrants unfairly derived from her. The indirect cost of objectionable immigrants is shown in many ways, amongst which I may mention, as one instance, the fact that they remain a long time a charge in the depôt, after arrival. As illustrations, I will take two vessels which arrived during the present and preceding months, the "Hotspur" and the "Samarang." The Immigration Board reported on each ship within two days of its arrival. Their report was, that the immigrants by the "Hotspur" were, in their opinion, ill-selected and badly suited to the colony; that those by the "Samarang" were well-selected, and would probably

bably be found a valuable addition to the population. The following Table shows how far these several statements have been borne out by subsequent facts:—

Country.	Number of Single Females.		Number remaining in Depôt 14 Days after Arrival.	
	"Hotspur" arrived, 25 June.	"Samarang" arrived, 8 July.	"Hotspur."	"Samarang."
English - - - -	10	67	4	3
Scotch - - - -	—	—	—	—
Irish - - - -	269	- - -	139	—
Totals - - -	279	67	143	3

In some cases, where a female immigrant has no friends in the colony able or willing to maintain her, and no employer relieves the public of the charge of supporting her, an expense of nearly 10*l.*, in addition to the cost of importation, is thrown upon the public funds; an expense which it is impossible to escape, without doing what no person would advocate, viz., turning the immigrant into the streets. Nevertheless, these facts show how necessary it is to insist that care be taken in selecting immigrants in the first place.*

16. Return No. IX., shows the number of children under 14 years of age arriving in the year 1854. The average in each family was 1·021, considerably less than in the preceding year. The existing limitations to carrying no more than three children under 10 years, or two under 7, are of course one cause of this result; and it is reasonable to suppose that these limitations, together with the abandonment of the use of ships with two passenger decks, have tended to lower the rate of mortality in the manner already pointed out.

17. Return No. X., gives the periods of engagements entered into by immigrants, and the average rate of wages obtained. The following is a comparative statement with previous years:—

Period.	Married Couples.	Single Men.	Single Women.
	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*
October 1851 to May 1852 -	53 – –	38 – –	20 – –
In 1852 - - - -	63 – –	41 – –	21 10 –
In 1852 - - - -	69 17 11	54 11 –	23 1 9
In 1854 - - - -	86 5 10	39 12 9	24 18 10

Wages, therefore, in 1854, rose, as compared with previous years, in the cases of families and single women, and sank with respect to single men. Allowance must be made in this matter, however, for the small number of single men who hired at all. Out of 704, only 63 hired for terms above six months, and 395 either did not hire at all, or hired with their own relations. More than half the married couples and about one-fourth of the single women left the depôt without hiring. The wages which ruled in 1854—86 *l.* 5 *s.* 10 *d.* average, with rations, for families; and 24 *l.* 18 *s.* 10 *d.* average, with rations, for single women—could not fail, when known, to be a source of attraction to those whose means enable them to emigrate from other countries; and part of the difficulties now encountered in the colony by persons in weak health, or encumbered with families, may fairly be ascribed to the want of forethought exhibited in some cases by immigrants who expected to find employers waiting on our wharves and soliciting labourers. One weakly man, with a family, now relieved by this department as destitute, assured me that such expectations induced him to abandon a comfortable place in Dublin which he had held 12 years.

Agricultural labourers are still in demand in almost every part of the colony, and the wages of domestic servants have not, up to the present time, undergone much diminution. At

* In estimating the immigration of any given year, it must be borne in mind that there must necessarily be a discrepancy between the figures shown in England and those shown in the colony, The immigrants sailing in 1854 are credited to that year in England. Those only who arrive in 1854 are credited to that year in the colony. It would be impossible to reconcile the two accounts, and it is best therefore to keep the arrivals of the year, and those only, to its credit.

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At the same time it is not to be doubted, and it might have been anticipated by those who watch these subjects closely, that the high rate of mechanics' wages, and the large numbers who immigrated to compete for them, have produced that sort of dullness which is inseparable from the state of any market in which, the demand having a limit, a supply is forced upon it without accurate calculations as to the point of limitation. It is fortunate that the gold fields of the colony afford a safety-valve for disappointed labourers of all kinds who are able and willing to work. At the same time it is to be observed, that the rates of wages paid to journeymen mechanics are in no case less than 10 *s.* per diem.

18. Return No. XI. shows the nominations which have been made for assisted and free passages. They show an increase in 1854 as compared with previous years.

YEAR.	Nomination Souls.	Amount Remitted.
		£. s. d.
From 1st January to 31st December 1852 -	208	1,505 – –
„ „ 1853 -	549	4,135 – –
„ „ 1854 -	850	5,972 10 –

The revised regulations which came into operation in June 1853, and which were held in approval by those who have conducted this department, afforded, no doubt, some facilities; and I venture to express my hope that some further changes, which I shall submit in this report, with the object of simplifying the arrangements to be made by nominators, may meet the approval of your Excellency, and may be sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government.

19. Before stating in general terms the conclusion to which the foregoing statistics lead, I may mention that, up to the present time (31st July), the assisted immigrants arriving in 1855 number 7,306 souls, thus distributed:—

DESTINATION.	Ships.	Souls.
Melbourne - - - - - - - -	8	2,499
Geelong - - - - - - - -	9	2,731
Portland - - - - - - - -	6	2,076
TOTALS - - -	23	7,306

20. The immigration agent reported, in 1854, that many of the immigrants who had arrived in the early part of the year were of an inferior class; and for the remainder of the year the same objection may be put forward. More especially as regards the Irish, the selections were often ill-made; and it can be no matter of surprise that an influx of a large number of persons badly adapted to the stirring requirements of the colony should have temporarily assisted to cloy the labour markets of Melbourne and Geelong, and make matters appear much worse than they are. Ship after ship reported upon by the Immigration Board in 1854 brought unmistakeable proofs that its freight was such as the friends of the colony would be unwilling to welcome at the cost for which it was obtained. At the hazard of not being able to procure a sufficiency of immigrants to exhaust the appropriated moiety of the land fund, I think it should be insisted upon by the colony that the immigration from each portion of the United Kingdom should bear due proportion to the census returns of each. This precaution would prevent the inundation of the colony with any objectionable elements which peculiar circumstances, affecting either England, Scotland, or Ireland, might tend to cast upon our shores, not at the expense of the comers themselves, but of the country on which they are to become a burden. The immigration during 1855 has been of a better character than that of 1854, on which I have to report.

21. The machinery for bringing nominated immigrants should, I think, be simplified, and the amount of remittances by this means increased. It is to be regretted that this species of immigration has lately sustained a temporary check. For its enlargement I would propose the following modifications.

At present, a nominator applying to the immigration office obtains three forms, two of which, with all requisite signatures, he has to leave in charge of the Government. After lapse of a month, he has to call for a certificate in duplicate; and in the course of his proceedings he has to attend at the several offices of the Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer, and the immigration agent; so that, supposing no avoidable delay occur, considerable

considerable trouble or interference with private business must be encountered, and very many documents must be signed and countersigned. At present there are three application forms, two certificates, triplicate monthly returns, and an entry in the certificate book required. I propose to retain the entry in the certificate book, the two certificates, and the triplicate monthly returns, and to do away with the delay which applicants have to encounter under present regulations, which require attendance at no less than three different offices. If a book were kept at the immigration office from which duplicate certificates should be given, the butts being preserved for record, and if, on payment of his money, a nominator could at once possess himself of these certificates and remit them to his friends, the duplicate being available only on proof of loss of the first copy, and if emigrants so nominated have preference with the Land and Emigration Commissioners for selection on presentation of their certificates, it appears to me that a large and a most healthy immigration might be looked for. In favour of nominated passages, some of the restrictions as to the occupation of parents or the number of children might also be relaxed.

The Land and Emigration Commissioners state in their Reports that not less than

In 1852 - - - - - - - -	1,404,000 *l.*
In 1853 - - - - - - - -	1,439,000 *l.*

are known to have been remitted from America to Ireland alone, in aid of the passage-money of friends of the remitters; and there are, doubtless, large sums similarly devoted, but unknown to the Commissioners. To give an impetus to immigration of this nature seems to me the proper function of the immigration department, except with regard to all wholesome efforts, having as an object the equalisation of the sexes in the census, and the consequent elevation of the moral tone and social comfort of the community. These two directions afford ample field.

There is comparatively little temptation for parents or others to encounter the trouble and expense of nominating relations, when these same relations, without any voluntary payment, may possibly obtain a free passage; and by paying the whole cost for immigrants who display neither ability nor readiness to help themselves, and only a portion for immigrants who do so, it is clear that the colony pays highest for the elements of which it has least need. The principle of nomination which I advocate applies, of course, to single women as well as to other persons. Considering the worthless character of many single women who are now sent wholly at the cost of the colony, it may be looked upon as most desirable to enhance the numbers of those whose relatives or friends are anxious to contribute to their passage and welcome them on landing.

It is true that personation might occur; so it does at present, and the colony suffers more pecuniarily from such deception now than it would in cases where a portion only of the passage-money would be a charge upon its revenues.

22. It may be argued that such immigration might be conducted by private enterprise; but it is easy to prove that it would not so be conducted with equivalent protection to the immigrant. Vast as is the emigration from Great Britain and Ireland to the United States, and great as has been the competition of shipowners and charterers in the passenger trade, it is still a subject on which legislation is found requisite, in order, in the language of the legislature of New York, to "enact such laws as may be necessary to secure the health of passengers in emigrant vessels."—(Minutes of the New York Senate, 28th January 1854.) No protection can be more complete than the power of withholding a portion of the contract price; and this is a power, the exercise of which, though reposed without hesitation in the Government, would be scarcely confided to private discretion.

Moreover, the experience of a long series of years, and the acceptance of every modification proved to be advantageous in regulations for voyages, gradually bring the public supervision to uniformity, excellence, and cheapness which no private means could accomplish with the same well-defined protection to passengers. No assisted immigrant leaves his ship, nor are contract prices paid in full, till every complaint is heard which is sought to be made. Similarity and certainty of punishments for infraction of passenger laws are justly dwelt upon by the Select Committee of the House of Commons (*see* Second Report on Emigrant Ships, ordered to be printed July 1854), as a matter of the greatest importance.

It is not to be doubted that the Land and Emigration Commissioners will adopt such improvements in regulations as to space, diet, medical comforts, enforcement of cleanliness, number of adults as well as of children to be embarked in one vessel, general sea-worthiness of vessels, character of surgeons-superintendent, and officers, &c., as experience may show to be advisable.

23. I have alluded to the effect which the great influx of immigrants has had in creating what some call a panic, some a reality, as to existing destitution. It is not my province here to judge between conflicting statements, but it is my duty to submit certain facts. Estimating the population of the colony at 273,792 on 31st December 1854, it appears that the excess of arrivals during 1854, after deducting departures of the year, was 48,429, or about one-sixth of the community on 31st December 1854. I find that the total immigration to the colony of New South Wales (*see* Report of Immigration Agent 1854, New South Wales) during the six years, 1849—1854 inclusive, was 49,571, or about the

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same number. Yet, with so much more pressure on the labour market here, wages have maintained, in 1854, the averages above set down, and may now be quoted as—

	£.	s.	d.
Married couples	53	6	–
Single men	33	15	6
Single women	22	4	6

I cannot better exemplify the directness of pressure which has almost uniformly singled out Victoria as the port of Australia to which to emigrate, than by stating, that the total immigration to New South Wales, a colony in which gold fields exist, has not lately reached the height it attained in 1842.

In 1853 it was 13,767. In 1842 it was 13,786.

It is well known that the pressure in 1842 of 13,786 persons, about one-eleventh of the population, caused unexampled distress in New South Wales: and seeing that, notwithstanding an immigration which, during 1851, 1852, and 1853 had raised the population of Victoria from 77,000 to upwards of 200,000, more than one-fifth of that amount was poured in upon it in 1854, it may well be said that in place of wonder at the existence of casual distress, admiration must rather be awakened at the capacity of the colony to provide means for the reception, and labour for the employment of so many thousands. It will be seen in Return XII. that 95 per cent. of the arrivals of unassisted passengers in 1854 have made Melbourne the point of debarkation.

24. The male population is still considerably in excess of the female. Though the difficulties under which the census was taken in 1854 may render it not trustworthy as to the aggregate, it is probably correct enough for purposes of a comparison, in which its deficiencies will, to a certain extent, balance one another. By it there were stated to be in the colony, on the 26th of April 1854—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
On 26th April 1854	155,898	80,900	236,798
The balance of unassisted immigration in favour of the colony, after taking the census, was, during 1854, deducting departures	17,401	6,367	23,768
The amount of assisted immigration which arrived after taking the census in 1854, was	3,772	6,608	10,380
Total on 31st December 1854	177,071	93,875	270,946

showing an excess of 83,196 males on the 31st December 1854.

This result, supplemented as it is by large overland arrivals, is one which cannot but be looked upon as deserving the efforts of statesmen to counteract by all legitimate means, and it is proper to show that an ameliorating tendency has been brought about by the labours of the Emigration Commissioners on behalf of the colony. The unassisted immigration has been—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
During half-year ending 31st December 1851	7,512	1,517	9,029
During 1852	67,110	12,077	79,187
During 1853	60,796	16,938	77,734
During 1854	51,913	15,179	67,092
Totals	187,331	45,711	233,042

showing a balance of 141,620 males in excess of females. Deducting from these numbers 94,825 males and 14,637 * females who left the colony from 1st July 1851, to 31st December

* For this calculation I have to assume that, out of a total emigration in 1851 (July to December) of 2,000 persons, reported by the immigration agent, the sexes were divided in the proportion actually found to exist in 1852.

ber 1854, inclusive, there remains a balance of 61,432 males in excess of females. This excess has been thus corrected by the assisted immigration:

YEAR.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
Half-year 1851 - - -	1,082	905	1,987
In 1852 - - -	7,762	7,715	15,477
In 1853 - - -	5,236	9,342	14,578
In 1854 - - -	5,456	10,862	16,318
TOTALS - - -	19,536	28,824	48,360

showing an aggregate excess of females of 9,286 souls during three years and a half, and diminishing the general excess to 52,416 males on the 31st December 1854; the whole of this correction having been effected during 1853 and 1854.

25. The cost of maintenance in depôt during 1854, distributing the total amount throughout the numbers maintained, was—

DEPOT.	1853.	1854.
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*
In Melbourne - - - -	3 8	2 5
Geelong - - - - -	3 3	2 11
Portland - - - - -	6 –	4 9¼

The contract price for maintenance being in 1854—

	s. *d.*
Melbourne - - - - - - - -	1 3
Geelong - - - - - - - - -	1 8
Portland - - - - - - - - -	1 10

The present contract price (July 1855) being at—

	s. *d.*
Melbourne - - - - - - - -	– 11½
Geelong - - - - - - - - -	1 1½
Portland - - - - - - - - -	1 9

26. Return XII. shows the amount of unassisted immigration during the year, with the countries from which it is derived. Classified for general purposes, the information stated comparatively with previous years is as follows:— Unassisted immigration.

COUNTRY.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	TOTAL.
From the United Kingdom	1,778	29,286	33,032	31,895	95,991
From Australian Colonies -	7,199	48,253	35,834	26,900	118,186
From Foreign Ports - -	52	1,648	8,868	8,297	18,865
TOTALS - - -	9,029	79,187	77,734	67,092	233,042

The departures being in the aggregate of those years 110,462, it appears that the final balance, 122,580, indicates a great power of absorption on the part of the colony. It would be impossible to ascertain how great a proportion of the emigrants from the colony consists of disappointed or of fortunate persons; but the great aggregate balance of immigration shows that the result of all reports, whether derived from official sources, the daily press, or from returning adventurers, is a net annual addition to our population, averaging an

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an annual rate of 37,000 unassisted immigrants during the four years 1st July 1851 to 1st July 1855.*

The rate of unassisted immigration during the current year has averaged 6,566 per month. The rate of emigration during the same period has been 2,431; showing that the balance remaining amounts to the rate of 49,620 per annum.

27. Amongst one of the most gratifying indications of the current into which labour has lately been directed, I may mention that the importation of agricultural implements has undergone the following change:—

1851	- - - - - - -	£. 552 value.
1852	- - - - - - -	561 „
1853	- - - - - - -	4,027 „
1854	- - - - - - -	30,089 „

and, at the port of Melbourne alone, for six months of 1855, 10,750 *l.*

28. The penalties imposed by the Imperial Act, 1852, and the Local Act of Council, 16 Victoria, No. 17, have been enforced in many cases, as is shown by Return No. XIV. of prosecutions in 1854. The fines imposed during the year 1854, and the half-year of 1855, ending June 30th, being 819 *l.* 3 *s.* and 5,026 *l.* 3 *s.* respectively.

The Commissioners have found reason to notice with satisfaction in a former year that prosecutions have been rigorously instituted at this port, tending to indemnify passengers for ill-treatment experienced at sea.

There can be no doubt that a reputation for local watchfulness in this respect will conduce to the good regulation of ships and the comfort of passengers bound hither. It is to be hoped that the attention of the Governments of England and America to this subject will bring about such enactments as will, if properly enforced, afford ample protection to immigrants. I have, in another part of this Report, noticed the fact that a Select Committee of the House of Commons has recommended united action in the matter. I would venture to suggest that the attention of the Commissioners might be called to the expediency of forwarding early information to the colony on this subject.

29. The Passengers' Rate Fund, during the year 1854, amounted to 15,567 *l.* 7 *s.* 6 *d.* Return No. XV., shows how large a proportion of this sum has been collected at the port of Melbourne. By converting the total arrivals, as shown in Return XII., from 67,092 souls to 62,269·5 statute adults, it will be seen that the return furnishes a fair check upon the amount collected.

30. A considerable number of cases of distress have been relieved at the expense of this fund, under the agency of this department. They consist principally of instances in which, during the absence or sickness of husbands, mothers have been unable to support their families, or in which sickness has disabled the applicants from working. The number received into the depôt during 1854 was 106 souls.

Up to the present time (31st July) 63 persons have received aid. The permission of your Excellency for the use of a certain sum per month, by the head of this department, has been the means of affording prompt relief in some distressing cases, of which the following may serve as examples not uninteresting.

A man remitted money for part payment of the passage of his wife and four children from the Mauritius; the vessel arrived safely, and the woman landed to seek her husband. Hearing that he was in service some miles from town, she proceeded in search of him, and fell ill; meantime, the vessel being about to sail, and the captain having no alternative but to land the four children or take them away, they were received into the depôt. Through the agency of the police the mother has been found, and permitted to join her children, and the father having been advertised in the Government Gazette, will, it is hoped, ere long be restored to his family. In another case a woman (whose husband is supposed to have deserted her), with the aid of a small pecuniary allowance per week, supports her mother and three of her own children.

31. It is proper to mention that it is proposed to expend a portion of the Immigrants' Rate Fund in facilitating the journeying of immigrants to the interior, on the route from Melbourne to Castlemaine. Your Excellency has acceded to propositions made by Mrs. Chisholm, whose exertions are so well known and appreciated as to need no comment from me, to the effect that the sums requisite for constructing plain substantial shelter sheds, or protection posts, at 10 stations between Melbourne and Castlemaine, shall be defrayed out of the Immigrants' Rate Fund, the total cost being limited to 3,800 *l.*, and the society to be managed by Mrs. Chisholm and her friends, guaranteeing to take charge of at once, and to maintain the shelter sheds in working order, so as to afford decent and economical accommodation to travellers. Arrangements for these objects are now in course.

32. On the subject of promoting an immigration on the principle of loans to intending immigrants, the experience of New South Wales seems by no means encouraging. Under an Act of the Legislature of that colony in 1852, means were taken to provide immigration of

* The balance of immigration from the neighbouring colonies, New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land, South Australia, and New Zealand, after deducting the return emigration from July 1851 to December 1854, was 29,974.

of a partially self-supporting character; immigrants assisted under its terms engaging to defray the whole or a fixed proportion of the cost of passage, out of their earnings in the colony.

The Land and Emigration Commissioners did not receive instructions concerning the Act early enough in 1853 to enable them to despatch any considerable number of emigrants in that year. In 1854 the experiment was tried, and the result has been, as reported by the immigration agent for that colony, that it cannot be carried out beneficially either to the immigrant or to the colony, and that the Act must, ere long, become a dead letter. So averse were employers to engage servants under the bond of the Act, and so little were immigrants inclined to respect those bonds, that, as regards female immigration, the Act was in a short time suspended, with the hope of clearing the Government depôts, and inducing a more useful class of immigration.

It appears to me, that it cannot be expected that a large number of "promises to pay" can be satisfactorily enforced against the immigrants themselves or their employers. Even if a man sign a bond, with the intention of redeeming his pledge (which is an assumption not to be relied upon in business transactions), the numerous temptations of high wages, unfettered by conditions, and the palpable absurdity of putting the community into court to sue for balance of passage-money against every recalcitrant immigrant, show that the defects of the system are not profitably to be evaded by the colony.

A system of land orders, issued on arrival of an immigrant, if the Legislature of this colony should incline hereafter to favour it, would produce a very different result.

33. Mrs. Chisholm has lately published a proposition, by means of which, on payment of money in the colony, tickets available in payment of passage to the colony would be issued, and the holder of tickets would be able to use them in purchasing land in the colony.

After much consideration, but without claiming to speak in any way with authority on this point, I cannot but think that the tickets suggested would become sources of speculative traffic rather than the means of introducing the class of immigrants required in the colony; and I apprehend that it is well to avoid the creation of a traffic, in the United Kingdom, with securities, the value of which, under certain circumstances, might be quoted abroad to the discredit of the colony.

34. The present remittance system, if modified so as to give every facility to a nominator, would afford, in my opinion, more convenience to those persons who desire to contribute towards the passage-money of their friends in Great Britain and Ireland, inasmuch as, if circumstances occur to prevent their friends from coming, the deposit-money is returned to the applicant. If immigrants, being required to pay the whole or a considerable proportion of their passage-money, were to receive from an agent for the colony a remission of one quarter (or some other less portion) of the sum paid by them in the shape of orders (bearing no interest) available for purchase of land * from the Government, on counter-signature by a proper authority in this colony, it appears to me that several important advantages would be gained. Immigrants likely to remain in the colony would be introduced; any pecuniary assistance required by immigrants in payment of passages would be obtained by private contract between individuals, and thus the community would not be placed in the invidious position of suing in a court of justice.

There is no doubt a possibility that there might be speculation with such orders; but it does not appear that such speculation could injuriously affect the colony. A monied person might indeed exact more than the proportion justly payable by the immigrant, and he would pocket the difference: but the colony would part with no land by means of these orders, except in proportion to immigrants arriving; and so soon as the regulations might become popularly known, each immigrant would prefer to become the proprietor of the land order issued in his favour.

It is probable that the class of immigrants attracted by such regulations as these, would be induced to devote their attention to agricultural pursuits.

The machinery required for such a system is simple, and this (so long as it may be held advisable to pay for any immigration, except for the purpose of equalizing in the census the proportion of males and females in the colony) it is essential that it should be.

I submit these suggestions, however, merely for consideration, in the hope that, whenever the subject may be dealt with as a whole, they may be found not quite valueless. It should be borne in mind that, if any return of passage-money is to be made by the colony to immigrants, the utmost care must be taken to prevent abuse of the regulations; and, judging from the vigorous tone of the existing voluntary immigration, it may be doubted whether it requires to be stimulated, rather than employed, by means of the colonial revenues about to be administered on the spot.

35. The sanitary station at Point Nepean, originally placed under the immigration agent, having been transferred to the control of that chief medical officer in July 1854, and the facts connected with that establishment having been reported upon by the immigration agent in his annual report for 1853, I need not recapitulate any of the information furnished by him.

The health of passengers during the year appears to have been good, inasmuch as only 15 vessels were placed in quarantine in 1854, four having assisted immigrants on board, and 11 carrying ordinary passengers; of these, five remained only two days, and six only three days in quarantine.

36. The

* A limit to the operations of each year would of course be necessary.

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36. The return of wages, prices, and miscellaneous charges current in Melbourne indicates a fall in most articles. These Tables are carefully compiled from information which is obtained periodically from authentic sources, and as much dependence can be placed upon them as the fluctuating state of the colonial market will permit.

37. Return XVIII. shows the rate of wages and prices current in the country districts in 1854. There will be remarked a slightly downward tendency in the average wages of mechanics. The wages of female domestics, it will be seen have risen.

38. In conclusion, I would thus condense the various recommendations scattered through the foregoing Report:—

See par. 8. That the immigration in 1856 do not exceed 11,000 or 12,000 persons.

See par. 6. That it be distributed in the manner recommended in paragraph 6.

See par. 7. That the means pointed out in paragraph 7 be resorted to, in order to pursue still further the policy by which the Land and Emigration Commissioners have hitherto endeavoured to add to the proportion of females in the colony.

See par. 20. That no one portion of the United Kingdom furnish more than a fair per centage of the immigration to the colony.

See par. 21. That the machinery for nomination remittances be simplified, and the immigration of relatives of colonists be thus promoted.

See par. 28. That in order to afford full protection to all unassisted immigrants, no opportunity be missed of putting the Government of this colony in possession of information as to the reciprocal course of negotiation or legislation between Great Britain and America on this subject.

See par. 34. That a system of land orders might (so long as any immigration other than the introduction of relatives of colonists, or the importation of single women, be deemed advisable) be resorted to, which would tend to promote a healthy immigration, and the cultivation of the lands of the colony.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. W. Rusden*,
Acting Emigration Agent.

His Excellency Sir Charles Hotham, K.C.B.
Governor-in-chief, &c. &c. &c.

— No. 9. —

(No. 136.)

No. 9.
Governor Sir C. Hotham to Sir W. Molesworth.
1 November 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Charles Hotham* to the Right Hon. Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart.

Toorac, near Melbourne, 1 November 1855.
(Received 5 March 1856.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 33, 2 April 1856, page 88.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Lord John Russell's despatch, No. 21,* of the 12th June 1855, in which it is remarked that in a return of unassisted immigrants to this colony, the columns for deaths and births at sea are left entirely blank, and I am requested to prevent a recurrence of the omission in future returns.

* Page 79.

I have given directions that the required information shall be carefully collected by the immigration agent, and that it shall, in future years, be given as correctly as the state of the law will permit.

At the same time I consider it necessary to point out that the Passengers' Act makes no provision whatever for supplying the defect in the return in question; and I have, therefore, serious doubts, whether, with the utmost care, the return will be of a reliable character.

It would appear to be the interest of each master and surgeon of an emigrant ship to avoid making known the number of deaths on board, because when they are apparently few in number the master more readily obtains passengers on his next voyage, and the surgeon more readily gets another ship.

The difficulty is also enhanced, so far as the deaths are concerned, by the fact that the passenger lists, of ships sailing from the United Kingdom, are sometimes very imperfect, from the countries and ages of the passengers being frequently omitted; and it appears that a note to this effect has been appended annually for some years to the return at present under consideration.

I find, upon inquiry from the immigration agent of this colony, that an account of the deaths has been collected from the verbal testimony of the surgeon of every ship which has reached this colony since March 1854, but to such an extent have these and other influences operated, that it is evidently very imperfect.

According

According to this account the rate of mortality on board ships, unaided by Government funds, has been 0·6 per cent., while the deaths on board ships chartered to this colony, by the Land and Emigration Commissioners (in which the facts are undoubted), were 3·6 per cent in 1853, and 1·47 per cent. in 1854.

It is barely possible, after all the attention which the Commissioners have for years bestowed upon the fitting, provisioning, and management of emigrant ships, that the rate of mortality should be from 2½ to six times greater in their ships, than in those conducted by private enterprise. It is, therefore, evident that the account rendered by the surgeons of private ships, must be incorrect.

To remedy this state of things, and to enable reliable statistics to be furnished from this colony, I would suggest that when the Imperial Passengers' Act is next amended, a clause might be inserted making it compulsory on the master of each ship, under a penalty for default, to inscribe on a part of the passengers' list, to be devoted for that purpose, the name, &c. in each case of birth or death; and at the same time that the emigration officers, might be instructed to take care that the lists are properly and correctly filled in.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Hotham.*

Despatches from the Officer Administering the Government.

— No. 10. —

(No. 16.)

No. 10. Major-General Macarthur to Sir W. Molesworth 23 January 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from Major-General *Macarthur* to the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart.

Government Offices, Melbourne, 23 January 1856.

Sir, (Received, 28 April 1856.)

MY predecessor had the honour of receiving your despatch* of the 31st August 1855, No. 17, covering the copy of a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, relative to the "Deposit and Remittance Regulations," now in force.

* Page 80.

A copy of this despatch will be laid upon the table of the Legislative Council; but I do not propose at present to recommend any material alteration in the "Remittance Regulations," applicable to this colony. The "Deposit Regulations," as pointed out by the Commissioners, were rescinded in 1852.

It is, however, the intention of my Government partly to adopt the suggestions contained in the report of the immigration agent for the year 1854 (sections 18 and 20) respecting the forms to be complied with by depositors; and care will be taken to advise the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners of any modification in the wording of the certificates.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Macarthur,*
Major-General.

— No. 11. —

(No. 40.)

No. 11. Major-General Macarthur to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere. 5 April 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from Major-General *Macarthur* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Toorac, near Melbourne, 5 April 1856.

Sir, (Received, 17 July 1856.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, as required by Lord Stanley's despatch of the 22 March 1845, a return of the immigrants who have arrived in this colony during the year 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Macarthur,*
Major-General.

Enclosure in No. 11.

RETURN classifying the IMMIGRANTS who have Arrived in the Colony of Victoria from the United Kingdom, during the Year 1855.

NATIVE COUNTRY.	Nature and Extent of Assistance Afforded.	NUMBERS LANDED.									DEATHS ON THE VOYAGE.								
		14 Years and Upwards.		Under 14 Years but not under 12 Months.		Under 12 Months.		TOTAL.			14 Years and Upwards.		Under 14 Years but not under 12 Months.		Under 12 Months.		TOTAL.		
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Assisted:																			
England and Wales	The whole or a part of the passage-money was in all cases defrayed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners out of the Land Fund of the Colony.	1,264	1,951	468	711	93	119	1,825	2,781	4,606	6	31	20	39	16	20	42	90	132
Scotland		422	853	151	237	34	25	607	1,115	1,722									
Ireland		583	2,010	101	149	31	32	715	2,191	2,906									
Other Countries		2	7	–	2	–	–	2	9	11									
TOTAL Assisted Immigration		2,271	4,821	720	1,099	158	176	3,149	6,096	9,245	6	31	20	39	16	20	42	90	132
Unassisted:																			
England and Wales		7,727	3,644	1,453	1,126	254	189	9,434	4,959	14,393	26	4	14	7	5	2	45	13	58
Scotland		982	593	242	179	45	23	1,269	795	2,064	11	2	3	–	1	–	15	2	17
Ireland		2,211	767	337	256	53	38	2,601	1,061	3,662	10	1	3	3	1	1	14	5	19
Other Countries		575	107	47	55	3	10	625	172	797	59	9	20	12	7	15	86	36	122
TOTAL Unassisted Immigration		11,495	5,111	2,079	1,616	355	260	13,929	6,987	20,916	106	16	40	22	14	18	160	56	216
GRAND TOTAL		13,766	9,932	2,799	2,715	513	436	17,078	13,083	30,161	112	47	60	61	30	38	202	146	348

NATIVE COUNTRY.	BIRTHS ON THE VOYAGE.			Agricultural Labourers.	Shepherds.	Domestic Servants.		Mechanics engaged in Erecting Buildings, or in obtaining or preparing Building Materials.	Other Mechanics.	Tradespeople Engaged in Making or Selling Articles of Food.		Tradespeople Engaged in Making or Selling Articles of Clothing.		Other Persons not included in the foregoing Columns.		Ships arrived with Immigrants.	Average Length of Voyage.
	Males.	Females.	Total.			Males.	Females.			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
Assisted:																	
England and Wales	80	60	140	442	9	3	830	613	135	30	13	8	38	585	1,900	28	96
Scotland				196	29	–	530	147	43	2	8	–	12	190	565	1	
Ireland				527	4	1	1,668	35	11	2	–	1	13	134	510	–	
Other Countries				–	–	–	5	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	
TOTAL Assisted Immigration	80	60	140	1,165	42	4	3,033	797	189	34	21	9	63	909	2,979	29	96
Unassisted:																	
England and Wales	60	52	112	1,809	23	92	103	807	365	354	2	198	42	5,786	4,812	162	114
Scotland				322	17	8	19	123	79	38	–	43	8	639	768	33	
Ireland				1,553	4	12	19	82	34	44	–	25	5	847	1,037	3	
Other Countries				186	1	11	–	30	50	33	–	14	–	300	172	–	
TOTAL Unassisted Immigration	60	52	112	3,870	45	123	141	1,042	528	469	2	280	55	7,572	6,789	198	114
GRAND TOTAL	140	112	252	5,035	87	127	3,174	1,839	717	503	23	289	118	8,481	9,768	227	105

Immigration Office, Melbourne,
27 March 1856.

(signed) *Chas. Edw. Strutt,*
Acting Immigration Agent.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

(No. 47.)

No. 1.
Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
15 December 1854.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart., to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham.*

Emigration Commissioners, 7 Dec. 1854.
Colonial Office, 18 December 1854.

Sir, Downing-street, 15 December 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of a correspondence between the Emigration Commissioners and this office, relative to the course to be pursued by them in dealing with persons claiming to be sent out to Victoria, by virtue of emigration remittance certificates, which it may not be in their power to produce.

You will perceive that I have approved the course which the Commissioners have hitherto followed in the matter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Encl. 1, in No. 1.

Sir, Colonial Land and Emigration Office, 7 December 1854.

WE have the honour to transmit for the consideration of Sir George Grey, a letter which we have received from Mr. Moore, Acting Colonial Secretary of Victoria, respecting the practice pursued by this Board in dealing with emigration remittance certificates.

26 May 1854.

2. In a recent case, referred to in Mr. Moore's letter, a person applied to us for a passage in virtue of a remittance made from the colony, without producing or having received his remittance certificate. He was told, after some correspondence, that, if the certificate did not reach him in a month, he might renew his application, sending in such documents as might be calculated to establish his identity with the person on whose behalf the deposit had been made. He did not, however, choose to submit to this delay, and made his way straight to the colony at his own expense.

3. Sir C. Hotham is of opinion that "upon the recurrence of a similar case it would be desirable that [we] should grant the nominees the required passages on the evidence furnished by the duplicate certificates, as in each instance a duplicate remittance certificate is forwarded to [us,] by which [we] shall always be enabled to identify the persons applying for passages with those nominated by the depositors."

4. We feel, however, unable to recommend that this course should be pursued, and we cannot help thinking that when making this recommendation the Lieutenant-governor had not been fully apprised of the object of these certificates.

5. It must be borne in mind, that in order to be safe in paying over money and furnishing free passages to persons applying to us on the strength of alleged deposits in the colony, we must necessarily satisfy ourselves on two points; first, that the alleged amount of deposit has been made for the benefit of certain persons; and, secondly, that the applicants in England are those persons.

6. On the first point, the fact of the deposit, the duplicate forwarded direct to us from the colony, is sufficient and conclusive evidence. On the second, the identity of the applicant, this duplicate affords no evidence whatever. This point can only be satisfactorily established by local inquiries. For these inquiries, however, we possess no adequate machinery, while in pursuing them we might be encountered by a great deal of fraud, and should probably incur frequent losses of public money, when having paid money to or for the wrong person, we were subsequently called upon to pay it to or for the right one.

7. In order to save the public (or ourselves personally) from this risk, it is distinctly provided by the existing regulations that the Board will be discharged from all liability on paying the money, and providing the passages to the persons producing the remittance certificate, and consequently that a person who from carelessness or accident has allowed another to gain the benefit of that certificate, will have no further claim on the public. This provision was, we believe, recognised at the time by the colonial authorities as not only desirable, but actually necessary for the protection of the public interests.

VICTORIA.

8. It is however our practice, when an applicant fails to produce his certificate, in the first place, to press for its production; but after a certain reasonable delay, to receive and consider any papers, (as *e. g.*, a letter from the depositor, or a statement from some respectable neighbours), by which he is able to prove his identity with the nominee. This was the course pursued, or at least offered to be pursued, in the case of the Wallaces, to which Mr. Moore's letter refers. It enables us to treat particular cases equitably without destroying the inducement on the part of nominees generally to proceed regularly and give up their certificates. It appears, however, from Mr. Moore's letter, that the Lieutenant-governor desires us to depart from this practice, and to give passages at once on no other evidence than the duplicate certificates forwarded to the Board, joined, we presume, to the statement of the applicants that they are the persons described in it, and to such other local evidence as we may be able to collect, or the neighbours willing to give.

9. The experience, however, which we have already gained of the frauds practised in regard to Government emigration, leave no doubt on our minds that it would, in this case, become speedily understood that the production of certificates (the only complete discharge, be it remembered, to the Government officer charged with administering this money), was a mere form; that we should become entangled in a multitude of small inquiries without any satisfactory means of pursuing them (unless indeed they were imposed upon the police, or some other department of Government,) and that a system would arise of double claims, preferred first by persons professing not to have received their certificates, and subsequently by persons producing them; a system which we could not pledge ourselves to baffle, and which would entail certainly a great amount of embarrassment, and probably some loss.

10. Under these circumstances, we hope that Sir George Grey will consider us justified in maintaining our present practice. In this case it would, we presume, be proper that the Lieutenant-governor should be informed of the grounds on which it is thought inexpedient to adopt, the alternative suggested by him.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

H. Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Victoria, Colonial Secretary's Office,
26 May 1854.

Gentlemen,

I AM commanded by his Excellency, the Officer administering the Government, to inform you, in answer to your letter of the 21st December last, that in compliance with the suggestions therein contained, the money deposited, under the "Immigration Remittance Regulations," by Mr. David Wallace, towards providing a passage to this colony for his brother and sister, but which had not been applied to that purpose, in consequence of their inability to produce the copy of the emigration remittance certificate, on which their application should have been made, has been returned to the depositor.

2. I am at the same time directed to take the opportunity of communicating to you the expression of his Excellency's opinion, that, upon the recurrence of a similar case, it would be desirable that you should grant the nominees the required passages, on the evidence furnished by the duplicate certificates, as in each instance a duplicate remittance certificate is forwarded to you, by which you will always be enabled to identify the persons applying with those nominated by the depositor.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Moore,*
A. C. S.

Her Majesty's Colonial Land
and Emigration Commissioners, London.

Encl. 2, in No. 1.

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

Downing-street, 18 December 1854.

Gentlemen,

I AM directed by Secretary Sir George Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, and I am, in reply, to acquaint you that, on the explanations there afforded, he approves of your following the practice which you have hitherto pursued in dealing with persons who may apply to you for a passage to Victoria, in virtue of a remittance made from the colony, without being able to identify themselves by the production of the remittance certificate as the proper parties to be sent out.

I am to inform you that, in conformity with your suggestions, copies of the correspondence on this subject will be transmitted to Sir C. Hotham, for his information.

I am, &c.
(signed) *H. Merivale.*

The Colonial Land
and Emigration Commissioners.

— No. 2. —

(No. 10.)

No. 2.
Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
6 February 1855.

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart., to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham*.

Sir, Downing-street, 6 February 1855.

I have received a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, in which they report that they have contracted liabilities for emigration to Victoria equal to the amount of money in their hands available for that service, and they ask for instructions for their future guidance. They have informed me that they have received a letter from the immigration agent at Melbourne, in which it is said that you intend to propose to the Legislative Council to remit to the Commissioners a further sum of 100,000*l.* for this service, but as they have not received any intimation of this proposal having been actually made, I have not considered that it would be proper to authorise them to incur further liabilities without more explicit information of the wishes or intentions of the colonial authorities. I have therefore instructed the Commissioners that they are to incur no further liabilities on account of emigration to Victoria, until fresh remittances arrive for this service, or at all events until information is received that your proposal on the subject is assented to by the Legislative Council, and that remittances applicable to these purposes are on their way.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey.*

— No. 3. —

(No. 6.)

No. 3.
Right Hon. Sidney Herbert to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
24 February 1855.

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *Sidney Herbert* to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham*.

Sir, Downing-street, 24 February 1855.

The Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners have informed me, with reference to a penalty for breaches of the charter-party which they have recently felt called upon to inflict on the owners of an emigrant vessel, that the assessment of such penalties would be materially facilitated if, in cases where short issues or short shipments are reported by the Colonial Immigration Boards to have taken place on any ship chartered by the Emigration Commissioners, those Boards would report the specific amount of the various deficiencies as far as the evidence before them may enable them to do so, I have therefore to request that you will give directions which will cause compliance with this suggestion of the Commissioners.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Sidney Herbert.*

— No 4. —

(No. 18.)

No. 4.
Right Hon. Sir G. Grey to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
7 March 1855.

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey* Bart., to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham*.

Sir, Downing-street, 7 March 1855.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 134,* of the 24th of October last, accompanied by the annual report of the immigration agent for the year 1853.

This report has been well digested, and contains a useful collection of the principal particulars connected with immigration.

I enclose a report on the subject from the Emigration Commissioners, and I would draw your attention to the additional information furnished by it on some points which appear to require explanation in the colony.

6 March 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey.*

* Page 38.

VICTORIA.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
6 March 1855.

Sir,

1. We have to acknowledge your letter of the 21st ultimo, enclosing the copy of a report from the immigration agent at Victoria.

2. It appears from that report that the arrivals in ships despatched by this Board during 1852 and 1853 were as follows:

	Arrivals.	Proportion of Deaths per cent.
1852	15,477	5·5
1853	14,578	3·6
Difference	899	

3. In the 17 last ships which arrived in 1853, the average mortality per cent. was only 1·3.

4. Mr. Bell remarks with satisfaction on the large number of single females sent out, and on the general good conduct of the surgeons, the gratuities having been withheld in only two cases; but he observes that the emigrants of 1853 are not equal in their general character to those of 1852, and he ascribes this to our having made large selections from Irish Unions. In order to raise the character of the emigration, he suggests that the deposit now required for bedding and mess utensils should be discontinued, except in the case of persons sent out by unions under the notion that this contribution renders it impossible for industrious labourers to emigrate without parish relief. We wish, however, to explain that this recommendation is founded on a misconception. Nearly 15,000 persons went to Victoria in the ships which formed the subject of Mr. Bell's report. Of these somewhat less than 4,000 were Irish, and of the Irish, as far as appears from their papers, only 34 females acknowledged themselves to have been in the receipt of parish relief (sometimes a considerable period previous to their emigration); and only three (a family going out to their relations) were inmates of an union at the time of their selection. Mr. Bell therefore must be under some misapprehension respecting our practice, which we are unable to explain. The real reasons of the alleged deterioration in the character of the emigrants of 1853 were that, as noticed in a later period of Mr. Bell's report) the emigration of 1852, with other circumstances, had the effect of raising wages in England during 1853, and that the fresh accounts which came from the gold fields were calculated to check the extreme eagerness for emigration which had previously prevailed in the labouring population of England.

5. The discontinuance of deposits would have the great inconvenience which naturally did not occur to Mr. Bell, but has been felt in this country, that persons would apply for passages without a settled determination to emigrate, and could consequently never be counted on for not making default at the last moment. The consequence would be, that we could not ever feel secure of filling our ships without summoning far more than they could carry, and should thus continually find ourselves either burdened at the depôt with an excess of emigrants, or obliged to send our ships away with less than the contract number on board. We would request that these explanations may be transmitted to the colonial authorities.

6. We have for some time been aware that (as stated by Mr. Bell) single women were not wanted in large numbers at Portland Bay, and that ships for that destination should not be despatched from England in the winter or spring, and we have guided our proceedings accordingly.

7. The unassisted immigration and emigration of 1853, compared with those of 1852, was as follows:

	IMMIGRATION.	EMIGRATION.	INCREASE OF POPULATION.
1852	79,187	31,038	48,149
1853	77,734	42,443	35,291
Difference	1,453	11,405	12,858

8. In 1854 unassisted immigration appears to have decreased much more rapidly. The comparison between the first half years of 1853 and 1854 being as follows:

First half year of 1853	43,514
„ „ 1854	29,406
Difference	14,108

Of

Of this decrease by far the greatest part was in the emigration from the United Kingdom, which fell from 17,950 to 9,072.

9. The total increase to the population of the colony through immigration by sea was, during 1852 and 1853:

Total unassisted - - - - - - -	83,440
Total assisted - - - - - - -	30,055
	113,495

10. The mortality in the unassisted immigration was very small; about 0·5 per cent. in 70 ships which arrived in the quarter ending 30th January 1854. The reason is evidently to be found in the absence of young children, among whom the principal mortality invariably occurs.

11. The Chinese immigration appears to proceed. Some had returned to their country after meeting with considerable success in the gold fields, and 2,895 had arrived during the first half year of 1854.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 5. —

(No. 42.)

No. 5.
Right Hon. Sir G. Grey to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
25 April 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart., to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham*.

Sir, Downing-street, 25 April 1855.

WITH reference to Earl Grey's despatch* of the 17th of July 1851, stating that a sum of 40 *l.* was to be allowed on certain conditions to the surgeons of emigrant ships to defray the expense of their return passage to this country, I have now to acquaint you that, as the price of passages has risen considerably since that date, it has been determined that the allowance in question shall be raised from 40 *l.* to 60 *l.*, subject to the same conditions as to good conduct, and return as before; the same to be reduced whenever a fall in the price of passages from Australia shall take place.

This increase will take effect from the present date, in order to include the claims of officers now on their way home.

* *Vide* Papers presented by Command, 30 April 1852, p. 28.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey.*

— No. 6. —

(No. 2.)

No. 6.
Right Hon. Lord John Russell to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
3 May 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell* to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham*.

Sir, Downing-street, 3 May 1855.

I REFERRED for a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners the petition transmitted in your despatch No. 14,* of the 12th of January last from the inhabitants of the town of Geelong, relative to the introduction into Victoria of female emigrants from Ireland, and I enclose for your information a copy of the report which has been received on the subject from that Board.

* Page 52.

20 April 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

Enclosure in No. 6.

Enclosure in No. 6.

Sir, Colonial Land and Emigration Office, 20 April 1855.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 14th instant, enclosing the copy of a despatch from the Governor of Victoria, in which he transmits a memorial from certain inhabitants of Geelong, who deny a statement, repeated by two local papers, that Irish female immigrants are useless for household work.

VICTORIA.

2. Statements like that which the memorialists contradict, occasionally reach us from different quarters, but in the absence of any specific instructions from the colonists we have thought it wisest to adhere to the course which we have for some time pursued in this respect. Our practice is, first, not except under peculiar circumstances, to accept any females from workhouses, that class of immigrants having been objected to by the colonists; and, next (as the Irish emigration is continually tending to exceed the proportion to which it is confined by the instructions of the Secretary of State), to limit emigration from that quarter by rejecting all families except those in which two-thirds of the members are females. The result is no doubt, that a very large number of Irishwomen reach the colony. But without this rule we should be unable to secure that large excess of females in the emigration to Victoria which has been favourably noticed by the authorities.

3. The memorial of the inhabitants of Geelong is transmitted without observation by Sir C. Hotham, and we see no reason either in it or in the newspaper statements which it is intended to controvert, for modifying our present practice.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

H. Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 7. —

(No. 15.)

No. 7. Right Hon. Lord John Russell to Governor Sir C. Hotham. 30 May 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell* to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham*.

Sir, Downing-street, 30 May 1855.

I HAVE laid before the Queen the Act of your Government, No. 5, 18 Victoria, intituled "An Act to regulate the Conveyance of Passengers to Victoria," which accompanied your despatch No. 12,* of the 11th of January last, and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty has been pleased to approve and allow the same.

* Page 47.

You will accordingly communicate Her Majesty's decision to the inhabitants of Victoria by a proclamation, to be published in the usual and most authentic manner.

I have, however, to acquaint you, that Her Majesty's Government have introduced a measure for the amendment of the Imperial Passengers' Act of 1852, which they hope to carry through Parliament during the present Session, and which, when it passes into law, will render necessary the repeal of the Local Act, No. 5, now assented to, in order that the local law may be adjusted to the provisions of the Imperial Act, and I herewith transmit for your information, in connexion with this subject, an extract of a Report which has been received from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners in reply to a reference which was made to them on the subject.

24 April 1855. Extract.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

Enclosure in No. 7.

Enclosure in No. 7.

EXTRACT from Report of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, dated 24 April 1855.

"5. THE Act appears a very useful one, and we have to report our opinion that it may be properly confirmed.

"6. As matters of detail we have to remark that the passengers' berths are required, as in the English Act, to be six feet long and eighteen inches wide. But in the Bill now before Parliament it has been found necessary to add a provision that the berths shall be not less than two and a half feet in height.

"7. We also observe, that the offence of taking down berths or failing to maintain the passengers for 48 hours after the ship's arrival is punishable under the Imperial Act by a fine of not less than 5 *l.* nor more than 50 *l.*, but under the Local Act by a fine not exceeding 20 *l.* The complainant of course will be able to proceed under either Act, but this is an appearance of conflict which it would have been better to avoid."

— No. 8. —

(No. 21.)

No. 8.
Right Hon. Lord John Russell to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
12 June 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell* to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham.*

Sir, Downing-street, 12 June 1855.

WITH reference to the return of immigrants enclosed in your despatch No. 31,* of the 14th of February last, I have to remark, that in the return of unassisted emigration, the columns of deaths and births are left entirely blank. As it cannot be assumed that neither deaths nor births occurred on board the private ships which conveyed upwards of 30,000 persons to the colony, I request that you will give the necessary instructions for preventing the recurrence in future returns of this omission, which detracts much from the value of the information.

* Page 53.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

— No. 9. —

(No. 35.)

No. 9.
Right Hon. Lord John Russell to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
19 July 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell* to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham.*

Sir, Downing-street, 19 July 1855.

WITH reference to the emigration which is conducted from this country to the colony under your government, under the superintendence of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, and to the proportionate amount of emigrants selected by that Board from Great Britain and Ireland respectively, I enclose herewith for your information the copy of a report which has been furnished by the Commissioners in answer to a reference which was made to them by my direction of a despatch from the Governor of New South Wales, in which objection was raised to the emigrants who had been sent to that colony from Ireland.

7 July 1855, *vide* page 31.

Irrespective of the points which have been in discussion between the Governor of New South Wales and the Emigration Commissioners, the report now transmitted contains valuable information which should be available for the benefit of all the Australian colonies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

— No. 10. —

(No. 3.)

No. 10.
Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth, to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
28 July 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth* to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham.*

Sir, Downing-street, 28 July 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith for your information the accompanying copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners relative to the desire expressed by your Government, that families comprising a greater number of young children than the Commissioners have been in the habit of considering admissible, should be sent out by them to Victoria under the "Remittance Regulations."

16 July 1855.

It appears that the Commissioners are prepared to carry out, so far as may be in their power, the instruction which has thus been conveyed to them, although they have thought it right to place on record the apprehension which they entertain that some increase of sickness and mortality may be expected to arise from the change.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Molesworth.*

VICTORIA.

Encl. in No. 10.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
16 July 1855.

Sir,

We have the honour to state, for the information of Lord John Russell, that we have recently received, from the authorities in South Australia and Victoria, instructions to send out under the "Remittance Regulations," families, comprising a greater number of young children than would be admissible under the general regulations of this department.

2. The colonial authorities point out that many men have, in the last few years, emigrated to those colonies, leaving their wives and children behind them until they should be able to earn the sum necessary to pay for their passages; that it is, on every account, desirable to encourage the reunion of such families; and that the fact of a man sending for his family is an earnest of his intention to settle in the colony, which it is to the advantage of the colony to assist.

3. Looking at the question from the point of view taken in the colonies, it is, we think, impossible to dissent from their conclusion; but the question as to the admissibility into our ships of large families of young children has been regarded by us, necessarily, more in a sanitary than a moral point of view. We had experience, in the emigration of 1852, that a comparatively small relaxation of our rule on that point led to a great deal of sickness and mortality, a state of things which was at once cured by a return to the former limitations. It was upon this ground that we have enforced the limitation with absolute strictness against ordinary emigrants, and with somewhat less rigour against remittance cases.

4. The colonial authorities now desire that this rule shall not be enforced against remittance cases, where the colonial depositor pays in full for the passages of those persons who are in excess of our regulations. As this request is made by the authorities with a full knowledge of the circumstances, we shall comply with their wishes, although we have thought it right to record our apprehension that some increase of sickness and mortality must be looked for in consequence.

5. In carrying out the system, we shall endeavour so to distribute large families as not to have many of them in the same ship. There might, however, be great difficulty in always effecting this, as those who have received remittance papers are generally anxious to get away, and could not be kept back, for the purpose of being widely distributed, without giving rise to inconvenience and complaint.

We have, &c.
(signed) *C. Alexander Wood.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 11. —

(No. 17.)

No. 11.
Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
31 August 1855.

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *William Molesworth* to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham.*

Sir,

Downing-street, 31 August 1855.

I transmit to you the copy of a report which has been drawn up by the Land and Emigration Commissioners, setting forth the comparative advantages which, so far as the means at their disposal enable them to judge, are derivable from the two sets of rules (the Deposit and Remittance Regulations) under which Government emigration to the Australian colonies is now conducted, together with tabular returns showing the rates of payment in the different colonies under the different regulations, the number of persons nominated, and the amount of money received under them during 1853 and 1854.

9 August 1855, vide page 34.

I transmit this statement to you for your information and your assistance in any review which may hereafter be made in the colony of the regulations upon this kind of emigration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Molesworth.*

— No. 12. —

(No. (43.)

No. 12.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
24 Dec. 1855.

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P., to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham.*

Sir,

Downing-street, 24 December 1855.

I transmit to you herewith, for your information, the copy of a letter, with its enclosures, from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, reporting the

8 December 1855.

the probable loss of the emigrant ship "Guiding Star," with the whole of her passengers and crew, while on her voyage from this country to Melbourne.

You will see that the Commissioners have made every practicable endeavour to obtain information as to the circumstances connected with this deplorable occurrence, and that every precaution was adopted by the Emigration Commissioners in the selection of a proper vessel, and in her equipment.

As so long a time has now elapsed since the "Guiding Star" has been heard of, I am afraid that no hopes can be entertained of her safety. It is, however, satisfactory to observe that this is the first accident, attended with loss of life, which has occurred among any of the numerous vessels despatched with immigrants by the Emigration Commissioners since the formation of that Board.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 12.

Encl. in No. 12.

Sir, Emigration Office, 8 December 1855.

It is with feelings of deep regret that we report, for the information of Mr. Secretary Labouchere, the probable loss, with all on board, of the emigrant ship "Guiding Star."

2. The "Guiding Star" was chartered by us for the conveyance of emigrants to Melbourne, on the 9th December 1854, and she finally took her departure from Liverpool on the 9th January last, having on board 481 emigrants and officers (including the surgeon) and crew, amounting to 65 persons. In the month of January she was reported as having been spoken at sea by several vessels, and on the 15th February she was last spoken in (as it is said) latitude 26° south, longitude 34° west. This would place her close to the coast of South Africa, off Delagoa Bay.

3. Since that time she has never been heard of, while other vessels which sailed for the same destination long subsequently, have arrived out, and many of them have even returned to this country. She has now been posted at Lloyd's as a missing ship, a course which, we believe, is not adopted so long as any reasonable expectation remains of the safety of the ship; and under all the circumstances, we are compelled, most reluctantly, to abandon the hope that she may still appear.

4. Mr. Labouchere will not doubt that we have made every inquiry in our power, as to the circumstances which may have led to so melancholy a catastrophe. We have written to the colonial authorities, but too recently, of course, to expect any answer from them. From our officer at Liverpool we have received the report of which we enclose a copy, which gives both a description of the "Guiding Star," and explains the precautions to ensure sea-worthiness adopted in this and in every other similar case. Captain Schomberg also reports the information which he had received, and which has been repeated to us from other quarters, as to the great quantity of ice in the Indian Ocean, and the unusually northern latitudes to which it had extended during the early part of the present year. By our charter-parties, framed on the best professional advice that we could obtain, ships under contract with us are prohibited from going further south, during the summer, than the 53°, and during the winter than the 47° of latitude. It appears, from Captain Schomberg's report, that ice was met in large quantities 10° further north than the limit prescribed by our charter-parties, in about the latitude of Hobart Town. We cannot but apprehend that the "Guiding Star" must have met with some accident in the ice.

Sub-Enclosure 1.

5. In conclusion we may be permitted to remark, that deeply as we deplore the loss of this ship, we have reason to be most thankful for the safety which, with this one exception, has attended our operations. Since the formation of this Board, 15 years ago, we have despatched to Australia, to the Cape of Good Hope, and the Falkland Islands, 683 ships, carrying 200,341 souls. Of these, excluding the "Guiding Star," only three have been lost (all on the Australian coast), without the loss of a single life or serious injury to a single individual. The "Guiding Star" is the first accident, attended with loss of life, which we have had to record.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

VICTORIA.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 12.

Sir, Birkenhead Depôt, 3 November 1855.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, respecting the "Guiding Star" despatched from this port on the 9th of January last, with 481 emigrants, which had not on the 7th of August, reached Melbourne, and desiring me to furnish the Board with a report of her fittings, equipment, and sea-worthiness before she put to sea.

In reply, I beg to state that the "Guiding Star" was chartered on the 16th of November 1854, from the firm of Messrs. Miller & Thompson, of Liverpool, for the conveyance of emigrants to Melbourne. She was nearly new, having been built at St. John's, N. B., in 1853, and was classed A 1, at Lloyd's, for seven years, the highest classification allowed for colonial-built ships. Before she was chartered to the Commissioners she had made two voyages, one to New York, in April 1853; the other to Melbourne, in February 1854.

In compliance with the instructions contained in your letter of the 16th of November, the "Guiding Star" was surveyed in dry dock by the Government surveyors, underwent a thorough refit, and was reported to be a good sound ship, and in every respect adapted for the service.

I enclose herewith a duplicate copy of the final certificate of survey, also a report by the surveyors on the efficiency, fittings, and equipment of the ship.

Provisions were shipped according to the charter-party for 400 statute adults and 1,790 gallons of water over and above the quantity required for the passengers and crew.

For the details of the ship's equipment and provisions, I beg to refer to the accompanying papers, and lists of provisions and stores.

The crew consisted of four officers and 60 men, of whom 40 were able seamen. They were examined by me individually, and separately questioned as to their qualifications, and were exercised aloft by taking a reef in the topsails. In my opinion they were a very efficient crew. The captain had a certificate of "competency," No. 2,387, and was a man of steady habits, ability, and experience. The chief mate also held a certificate of "competency," No. 70,617, and appeared to be a very efficient officer. The second mate possessed a certificate of "competency," No. 66,173. The third mate was appointed to serve out provisions; but the fourth mate held a certificate of "competency," No. 11,437.

Besides the usual paper issued by the Board, on fire, &c., the accompanying paper containing directions respecting boats, fire engines, and fire annihilators, was given to the captain in duplicate, and I impressed upon him the necessity of organizing his crew at once in case of accident.

With reference to the last paragraph of your letter, I beg to state that I have made inquiry respecting the voyages of ships sailing about the same time as the "Guiding Star," with the following result.

The "Cambridge" sailed for Melbourne at the end of December 1854, and by an extract from her log it appears that on the 4th of March, in lat. 43 south, she fell in with ice in very thick weather, and from that time until the ship was in the meridian of the Cape, the captain was only able to get two observations.

The "Ocean Chief" sailed for Van Diemen's Land on the 11th January 1855, two days after the "Guiding Star." From the 27th February in lat. 47° 13′ south to the 6th March in lat. 48° 13′ south, icebergs were seen, strong winds prevailed, a heavy head sea, and thick weather.

The "Ralph Waller," which arrived at Melbourne 7th April 1855, from Liverpool, had been in contact with an iceberg on the 22d of March 1855, lat. 48 south, long. 106 east, had 15 feet water in the hold, which was got under after 79 hours' pumping. Leak was partially stopped by lowering a sail over the bows. Part of cargo thrown overboard.

The "Guiding Star" was last spoken on the 15th of February in lat. 26 south, long. 34 west, and has not since been heard of. Taking into consideration the date at which the ship left Liverpool, and the latitude in which she was last spoken, and comparing her probable course with that of the ships I have mentioned which sailed about the same time, it is not unlikely that she encountered the same masses of ice, and met with the same thick and tempestuous weather. If the ship came in contact with the ice during the night, or suddenly, going at the rate of 10 or 11 knots, which the log of the "Ocean Chief" shows that she was making for nine or ten days, it may naturally be inferred that she was lost from that cause. But under whatever circumstances her loss has occurred, I feel bound to state that a better ship has not sailed from this port under my superintendence. During her preparation for the voyage, I was much gratified with the care, attention, and cordial co-operation of Captain McLelland and the chief mate.

I enclose herewith extracts from the logs of the "Cambridge" and "Ocean Chief."

I have, &c.

S. Walcott, Esq. (signed) *C. F. Schomberg.*

Extract Letter from Captain *Hewett*, ship "Cambridge."

I had very good S. E. trades, that is, pretty strong ones. I had some calms to the southward for three days. I did not make 50 miles altogether, after which I got the wind from N. W. with very thick weather. Steering southward, intending to make 55°, my maximum

maximum latitude. On the morning of the 4th March, I was astonished to hear the cry of "ice ahead," being no further south than 43°. I was at breakfast at the time; when I went on deck there were two icebergs about one point on the starboard bow, not half a dozen ships' length off. I then had studding sails set on both sides. I hauled to the eastward, took in all studding sails, and made the ship handy for working. About noon it cleared up a little (during the morning and for several previous days it had been as thick as a hedge), and then found myself to be literally surrounded with icebergs. I counted 50, but there were many more from 300 feet high to 20. I had no passage through them to the southward or eastward, so that I had to haul on the wind (the bergs formed something like a bay) and beat back short tacks, making a N. E. course during the night. In the morning I stood 20 miles to the westward, still I had ice to the southward. I afterwards stood to the N. E., I cleared the berg furthest to the N. E., about six P. M. All this time I had as much wind as I could show topgallant sail to. From this until I got into the meridian of the Cape, I did not get two good observations.

Extract from the Underwriter's Room, Liverpool.

The "Ralph Waller," which arrived at Melbourne 7th April 1855, from Liverpool, had been in contact with an iceberg on the 22d March 1855, lat. 48 S. 106 E., had 15 feet water in hold; it was got under after 79 hours' pumping; leak was partially stopped by lowering a sail over the bows. Part of cargo thrown overboard.

Extracts from Log of Ship "Ocean Chief."

February 27th, 1855, begins with moderate breezes and passing clouds. Barometer 29° 4 ½; thermometer in the cabin 48°, deck thermometer 44°, look like snow; at 6 P. M. a very heavy squall accompanied with hail. Midnight, very heavy snow squalls, heavy squalls throughout; at 4 A. M. passed a large ice island, about 4 miles dist. Thermometer on deck 30°, in the cabin 48° ¼; at 11 A. M. passed two other large icebergs. Lat. obsᵉᵈ 47° 13 south; longitude ditto 19° 17 east; dist. run 303 miles.

February 28th, 1855, begins with cold weather and fresh breezes, passing clouds; icebergs in sight; both sides; very large islands. Barometer 28° 5 at noon; at 4 P. M. 28° 3; midnight, wind hauled to the N. E.; began to rain, thermometer 42°; latter part fierce gale came on; split the mainsail to pieces; second reefed maintopsail; close reefed fore ditto; furled the mizen ditto; latitude obsᵉᵈ 47° 38′ south; longitude D. R. Dist. run 250 miles.

March 1st, 1855, begins with a severe gale and hail squalls, unbent and bent another mainsail; tremendous heavy sea on; at 4 P. M. most terrific squalls, as much as we can stagger under with a double reefed maintopsail; at 10 P. M. little less wind, but still blowing heavy; barometer 28° 3 ½; noon 28° 9; thermometer 49 ½° in the cabin; on deck 42°; split the foretopsail, bent another. Latitude obsᵈ 47° 44′ south. Longitude ditto 32° 26′ east. Dist. run 257 miles.

March 2d, 1855, begins with hail, sleet, and rain squalls; high sea from N. W. Ship rolling much. Midnight rain squalls, occasionally moderate breeze, but a heavy sea. Ship rolling most horrible. Barometer 29° 3; thermometer 52° 0. Latter part light winds and high sea. Latitude obsᵉᵈ 47° 56′ south. Longitude ditto 38° 17′ east. Dist. run 253 miles.

March 3d, 1855, begins with light winds and clear weather; high N. W. sea. Clear till 11 P. M., then clouded up, began to get damp. At 4 A. M. sleet and thick weather. N. W. sea still coming up. At noon sleet and rain, light airs. Mrs. Jarvis safely delivered of a fine son at 3 h. 30 m. A. M.; mother and child doing well. Sun obscure; no observation. Latitude by D. R. 48° 16′ south. Longitude ditto 41° 45′ east. Dist. run 182 miles.

March 4th, 1855, begins with thick, dirty weather; sleet and rain, and very little wind at 7 P. M. Calm, high S. E. sea; a bright streak around the horizon at 10 P. M.; a light breeze from the N. E. sprung up. Ship pitching into the head sea violently; fresh squalls occasionally from E. N. E. at 11 A. M.; another large iceberg close under the bows, white like marble. Hazy; barometer 29° 4 ½; thermometer 48°. Latitude observᵈ 48° 44′ south. Longitude ditto 45° 08′ east. A child of Mrs. Thomas born at 2 P. M. Dist. run 142 miles.

March 5th, 1855, begins with a high S. E. sea, and dull weather, the iceberg in sight astern; sharp dry squalls and cold; snowing occasionally. Thermometer 30 ½°; barometer 29° 5′; heavy squalls and thick snow; latter part thick weather. Latitude obsᵈ 48° 23′ south. Longitude obsᵈ 51° 08′ east. Dist. run 254 miles.

March 6th, 1855, begins with passing squalls of snow; continuance of snow squalls throughout; high N. W. sea. Split fore topmast studding sail to pieces. Barometer 29° 4′; thermometer 38° 0; took in the starboard studding sails to save them. Latter part strong breezes and hail squalls. Latitude obsᵈ 48° 27′ south. Longitude obsᵈ 58° 01′ east. Dist. run 280 miles.

N.B.—49° south was the highest latitude gone into, after which the water appeared clear, and no ice was seen.

VICTORIA.

— No. 13. —

No. 13.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir C. Hotham.
29 January 1856.

(No. 12.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* M.P., to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham.*

Sir, Downing-street, 29 January 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 112,* of the 29th of August last, accompanied by the Annual Report of the Immigration Agent.

* Page 56.

The contents of this Report are very interesting and well arranged.

24 January 1856.

I enclose, for your information, the copy of a report upon it, which I have received from the Emigration Commissioners; and upon the practical questions therein adverted to, I concur in the Commissioners' suggestions.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 13.

Enclosure in No. 13.

Sir, Emigration Office, 24 January 1856.

1. WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 7th instant, enclosing the annual report of the immigration agent for Victoria.

2. From this report we propose to collect and place before Mr. Labouchere, first, the principal statistical facts respecting the nature and extent of the immigration during 1854; next, the observations of the immigration agent on the conduct of the emigration during that year; and, thirdly, his recommendations with regard to future immigration.

3. I. Between the 30th of June 1851 and the 31st of December 1854 the immigration into Victoria by sea was as follows:

YEAR.	Unassisted.	Assisted.
Second half of 1851 - -	9,029	1,987
„ „ 1852 - -	79,187	15,477
„ „ 1853 - -	77,734	14,578
„ „ 1854 - -	67,092	16,318
	233,042	48,360
	48,360	
	281,402	

Dividing the immigration according to sex, the result is as follows:

	Males.	Females.
Unassisted immigration - - - - -	187,331	45,711
Assisted - „ - - - - - -	19,537	28,823
	206,868	74,534
Deduct the Emigration - - - - -	94,825	14,637
And there remains an addition to the Population of	112,043	59,897

or in all, of 171,940 persons.

4. The

4. The actual state of the colony at the end of 1854, as regards the division of sexes, is shown as follows. The census of 26th of April gave the following results:

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Persons in the colony in April 1854 - -	155,898	80,900	236,798
Add, balance of unassisted immigration over emigration during rest of 1854 - - -	17,401	6,367	23,768
Assisted immigration - - - - - -	3,772	6,608	10,380
Persons in the colony, 31st Dec. 1854 -	177,071	93,875	270,946

The excess of males was, therefore, on the 31st of December 1854, 83,196. It would probably have been about 10,000 more, but for the excess of females on the assisted immigration of the last few years.

5. The assisted immigration of the whole of 1854 was made up as follows, in point of sex and country:

	Males.	Females.	Total.
English - - - - - - -	2,019	3,216	5,235
Scotch - - - - - - -	1,759	2,733	4,492
Irish - - - - - - -	1,678	4,913	6,591
TOTAL - - -	5,456	10,862	16,318

In point of religion—

Roman-catholic - - - - - - - -	6,113
Church of England - - - - - - - -	4,675
Presbyterians - - - - - - - -	4,563
Wesleyans - - - - - - - -	518
Other Protestants - - - - - - - -	449
	16,318

6. As might be supposed, the Roman-catholics were almost entirely Irish, the Presbyterians Scotch, and the members of the Church of England, English. Of the 5,456 males 2,254 were agricultural labourers, and 1,144 mechanics concerned with building, a class of persons very urgently wanted till the houses in the colony had increased in some proportion to the sudden influx of inhabitants.

7. Of the whole number,—

8,630 could read and write.
2,934 could read only.
4,764 (including children) could neither read nor write.

And the per centage of those who could read and write in the different communions was,

Church of England - - - - - - - -	0·655
Presbyterian - - - - - - - -	0·634
Wesleyans - - - - - - - -	0·626
Other Protestants - - - - - - - -	0·629
Roman-catholics - - - - - - - -	0·329

The average wages of agricultural labourers during 1854 were (besides rations), for

	£.	s.	d.	
Married couples - - - - - -	86	5	10	per annum.
Single men - - - - - - -	39	12	9	„
Single women - - - - - -	24	18	10	„

a somewhat curious result, as it would seem that a man and woman would add more than 30 per cent. to their aggregate wages by marrying. It seems, however, that the average wages of 1854 would not have been obtainable in 1855, having sunk in July 1855, in the case of

	£.	s.	d.	
Married couples, to - - - - - -	53	6	–	per annum.
Single men, to - - - - - -	33	15	6	„
Single women, to - - - - - -	22	4	6	„

8. The

VICTORIA.

8. The remittances paid by colonists to bring out friends from England were on the increase,—

	Persons.	Amount.
They were, for 1852	208	£. 1,505
„ 1853	549	4,135
" 1854	850	5,972

9. II. With regard to the general conduct of the emigration, Mr. Rusden notices the efficiency of the surgeons and the decrease of mortality which, during the four last years, was (in ships arriving in Victoria) as follows:

Last half year of 1851	1·86
„ „ 1852	5· 5
„ „ 1853	3· 6
„ „ 1854	1·47

Among the adults, the mortality on board was at a rate equivalent to no more than 1·834 per cent. per annum.

10. These satisfactory results Mr. Rusden ascribes partly to the increased precautions taken to secure health, partly to the larger class of ships employed, and partly to the smaller number of children put on board. There can be no doubt that the last of these causes has had a most important effect on the total mortality, and we hope that the first is not also without its weight. But a very minute investigation of the subject (undertaken with reference to the question of salted ships) has led us to doubt whether the increased size of the ships employed, tends much to improve the health of those on board. It may be remembered, as somewhat curious, that in this respect the experience of the American and Australian emigrations led to directly contrary results.

11. The cost of the emigration to Victoria for 1854 was high, being no less than 21*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* per adult. This is of course accounted for by the high price of shipping and provisions. It will, we hope, be considerably less in 1855, as the prices of Australian emigrant ships may be said, roughly, to have ranged during the first half of 1854, between 20*l.* and 26*l.* per statute adult; but, during the first half of 1855, between 14*l.* and 18*l.*

12. We regret to perceive that the persons sent out during 1854, and especially the Irish, are reported to have been of an inferior class. Mr. Rusden points out that the Irish emigrants are less educated than the English and Scotch, while a far larger number of them are sent out than is warranted by the relative population of Ireland and Great Britain. The subjoined figures embody Mr. Rusden's conclusions:—

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.
Proportion which should have been sent out according to census of 1851	·657	·105	·238
Proportion which was sent out	·321	·275	·404
Proportion of emigrants who could read and write	·658	·632	·356

13. On this point, however, the question has been rather what was practicable than what was best. Without drawing very largely upon Ireland we could not have answered the great demand for emigrants which was pressed upon us from all the Australian colonies, and still less would it have been possible to send out the large excess of females, of which Mr. Rusden fully appreciates the advantage. He alludes to the "ameliorating tendency which has been brought about by the labours of the Emigration Commissioners." He even goes so far as to propose means, to which we shall hereafter advert, for still further reducing the number of males sent out by this Board, and he suggests that Government emigration should be confined, as far as practicable, to single females, and the nominees of depositors under the Remittance Regulations. But, as we have had occasion to state in another report* of this day's date, this large immigration of unmarried women could not have been effected from England. By reference to Mr. Rusden's report it will be seen that it is due to the emigration from Ireland, to which on other grounds he objects. He states the proportion of single men and women arriving in Victoria in 1854, to have been as follows:

* Page 146.

	Single Men.	Single Women.	Per-centage Proportion of Men to Women.
From England - - - -	720	1,924	37·4
„ Scotland - - - -	837	1,815	46·1
„ Ireland - - - -	792	4,028	19·6

And it is evident, from these figures, how greatly our endeavours to correct the sexual disproportion of the unassisted immigration must have been neutralized had emigration from Ireland been reduced to the amount justified by the population of the country.

14. At present the eager desire to emigrate from the United Kingdom, and to receive immigrants in Australia has somewhat abated, and in the less extensive emigration which we are now carrying on, being at the rate of two ships a month to Victoria, we are endeavouring to reduce the number of Irish. But looking to the extreme weight attached in the colony, with evident justice to female immigration, we shall not, unless otherwise instructed by the Secretary of State, consider ourselves bound to adhere accurately to the correct proportion between English and Irish emigration, at the expense of materially reducing the excess of females which we are now able to send out.

15. Before leaving this part of Mr. Rusden's report, we may be allowed to point out that the arrivals of 1855 are said to be of a superior class, and to explain that the Irish single women are not, as the Australian colonists appear to imagine, taken from workhouses, but are selected according to our usual rules from agricultural families. Persons in the habitual receipt of parochial relief are not eligible under those rules, and are never knowingly accepted by us.

16. III. It remains to notice Mr. Rusden's principal recommendations which he enumerates at the conclusion of his report.

1st. The immigration for 1856 is not to exceed 11,000 or 12,000 persons, sent out in the following proportions:

Melbourne - - - - - - - - -	4,000
Geelong - - - - - - - - -	4,000
Portland - - - - - - - - -	1,500
Belfast - - - - - - - - -	1,500
	11,000

We fear that the state of this country will hardly enable us to despatch this number of emigrants during 1856, without sending an undue number from Ireland. The proportions suggested by the immigration agent we shall of course observe.

2d. It is at present the practice, even if a vessel could be filled with single women, to send out with them a certain number of married couples; as persons likely to strengthen the authority of the surgeon over the single women, and, if requisite, against the ship's crew. Mr. Rusden thinks that a smaller number of families might be made to serve this purpose, if military pensioners accustomed to discipline were sent out with their families. On this point, however, we are inclined to adhere to our present practice, partly because the families sent out, may be required to contain a fixed proportion of females, and so be made to swell the female excess; partly because old soldiers, taken to a certain extent at random, are not always, when released from strict military discipline, the most amenable to the orders of civilians.

3d. The proportion between English and Irish emigrants we will endeavour to observe, except so far as some excess of Irish may be necessary to secure the required excess of females.

4th. Mr. Rusden suggests a mode of simplifying the machinery through which deposits are received in the colony, from persons desirous of procuring free passages for their friends in England, and he proposes, with regard to these nominees, that the rule of occupation should not be so strictly enforced, and, with regard to their families, that our rules which limit the number of young children, should not be enforced. Of these suggestions the first two are entirely for the consideration of the colonial authorities. We may state, however, that it is already our practice to apply our rules regarding occupation very liberally to remittance cases, and that at the desire of the authorities of Victoria and South Australia, we have already withdrawn the rule which limits the number of children to be sent out in any one family under the Remittance or Land Deposit Regulations.

5th. The colonial Governments will, of course, be apprised (as suggested by Mr. Rusden) of any reciprocal legislation which may be effected between Great Britain and other countries, for the protection of passengers.

6th. After

VICTORIA.

6th. After pointing out certain objections to a cognate scheme of Mrs. Chisholm's, Mr. Rusden suggests that it might be useful to promise a certain amount of land scrip to emigrants (of certain classes as we presume) making their way at their own expense to the colony. This is a matter to be decided upon in the colony. We should ourselves, like Mr. Rusden, question the expediency of stimulating at present the unassisted immigration. But we should also doubt the wisdom of issuing land scrip for that purpose. It cannot, we presume, be intended that this scrip should be issued in such quantities as to become depreciated. And if not, it would be as inexpensive to the colony, and much more simple, to give the colonist any bonus which may be thought expedient, in hard money.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 14. —

(No. 33.)

No. 14. Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir C. Hotham. 2 April 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P., to Governor Sir *Charles Hotham*.

Sir, Downing-street, 2 April 1856.

I HAVE referred to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners for any observations they may have to offer thereon, a copy of your despatch No. 136,* of the 1st November last, explanatory of the omissions in the returns sent home of births and deaths of unassisted emigrants to Victoria during their voyage to that colony, and I now enclose for your information a copy of the reply which has been received from that Board.

* Page 70.

28 March 1856.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 14.

Enclosure in No. 14.

Sir, Emigration Office, 28 March 1856.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 25th instant, enclosing the copy of a despatch from the Governor of Victoria, respecting the return of unassisted immigration into that colony.

2. The Secretary of State had desired, at the suggestion of this Board, that accurate information might be furnished respecting the births and deaths which occurred in private passenger ships. The Governor observes that the master is not compelled by law to supply this information, and is under an inducement to suppress the deaths which may have taken place.

3. Sir C. Hotham adds, that he will furnish such information as can be collected, and suggests that on any alteration of the Passengers' Act, the colonial authorities should be enabled to exact the required returns from the officers of passenger ships.

4. We have the honour to state, that by the 16th clause of the Passengers' Act of 1855, provision to this effect is now made; the master being required to deliver a return of the births and deaths which may have occurred on the voyage, to the Custom-house Officer, at the port of debarkation.

5. Sir C. Hotham also points out that the deaths returned on the private passenger ships are only 0·6 per cent., while in Government ships they were 1·47. This may be in part due, as suggested by him, to the inaccuracy of the information obtained from private persons, but we have no doubt that the main cause of the difference is to be found in the number of children embarked in our ships, who in 1855 formed one-fourth of the emigration, and among* whom almost the whole mortality occurs.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

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* A return recently arrived from Adelaide illustrates this statement. In the Government ships which arrived in the colony during the third quarter of 1855, only three deaths occurred among 2,071 adults placed on board, the mortality being at the rate of 0·14 per cent., or about a quarter of the rate of mortality in the private passenger ships to Victoria, but the total mortality was no less than 0·69 per cent.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Despatches from Governor Sir H. E. F. Young,
Acting Governor Finniss,
and Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell, C.B.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Despatches from Governor Sir H. E. F. Young, Acting Governor Finniss, and Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell, C.B.

— No. 1. —

No. 1. Governor Sir H. E. F. Young to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey. 9 October 1854.

(No. 91.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor *H. E. F. Young* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Adelaide, 9 October 1854.
(Received, 25 January 1855.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose a commissariat certificate for Seven thousand pounds (7,000*l.*), as a remittance to the Land and Emigration Commissioners, to be applied to the introduction of labour into South Australia.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. F. Young.*

— No. 2. —

No. 2. Governor Sir H. E. F. Young to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey. 18 October 1854.

(No. 93.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Adelaide, 18 October 1854.
(Received, 25 January 1855.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour of enclosing the Report of the Emigration Agent for the quarter ended the 30th September last.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. F. Young.*

Encl. in No. 2.

Enclosure in No. 2.

IMMIGRATION AGENTS' REPORT, for the Quarter ended 30 September 1854.

Sir, Immigration Office, Port Adelaide, 2 October 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor, the Report of the Immigration Department for the quarter ending the 30th September 1854.

During that period of time, six ships chartered by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners have arrived, bringing to the colony an aggregate number of 1,653 souls.

The casualties by death have amounted to one male and two female adults, one boy between the ages of seven and 14 years, seven boys and nine girls between the ages of one and seven years, and six male and eight female infants, in all 34 souls. Out of that number of deaths, 14 occurred on board one ship, the "Nugget," owing to measles, in a severe form, having become prevalent on board.

The

The births in these six ships numbered 32, so that the actual number of souls embarked in England exceeded the number landed here by two only.

The "Nugget" arrived here on the 3d July, having been 91 days on the passage, bringing to the colony 402 souls. Ten births and 14 deaths occurred at sea; measles prevailed during the early part of the voyage. Eight deaths were caused by that disease.

This ship is admirably adapted for the conveyance of emigrants, it is lofty between decks, and well lighted and ventilated. Upwards of 100 single girls arrived by this ship, but were not of the class most in demand in the colony.

The surgeon-superintendent of the "Nugget" is of opinion that the system of berthing amidships might have been adopted with benefit in this vessel. He objects to the lying-in hospital being in the compartment appropriated to the young women, as it is the most noisy part of the ship, and also most difficult of speedy access at night.

The "Ostrich" arrived in this port on the 21st of July, after a passage of 93 days; bringing to the colony 188 souls. Four deaths and four births occurred during the voyage, or before final disembarkation. All the deaths happened during the 14 days in which the emigrants are allowed to remain on board.

The surgeon of this vessel also suggests the propriety of having the lying-in hospital removed from the single women's apartments. He complains of a deficiency of some of the medical comforts, such as porter and brandy.

The emigrants arriving in this vessel were of a most eligible class; and the single women found immediate employment.

The "Naverino" arrived on the 15th of August, after a passage of 104 days; she brought to the colony 234 souls. Four deaths and four births took place during the voyage.

The "William Prowse" arrived on the 19th of August, after a passage of 87 days, bringing to the province 268 souls. This vessel came out in very excellent order, and the surgeon-superintendent performed his duty most efficiently.

A new system of berthing the people was adopted in this ship, which seems to me most excellent, and which the surgeon-superintendent found to be practically very useful. The berths were arranged round the sides of the ship, as in the old system, but the half of each berth is movable upon a hinge, so as to allow a clear space during the day between the berths and the sides of the ship, when the one-half is fastened up. This enables the port-holes to be opened at all hours of the day, so that both light and ventilation are obtained, while the whole space in the centre of the between-decks is available, as in the old system. I highly approve of this system, especially in ships of small size; for in such ships the system of berthing amidships is attended by the discomfort of dividing the space allotted to the tables and messing into two compartments, which, except in very large ships, is decidedly inconvenient.

There was, in the "William Prowse," a want of sufficient strength about the hinges, which were fastened with nails instead of screws, and the wood to which they were affixed was not sufficiently strong; but this is a mere matter of detail.

The surgeon-superintendent recommends that, in future emigrant ships, the poop should be divided off; one-half being set apart and divided into hospital, bath-room, bread-room, and store-room; the door of the latter to open on the main deck. He recommends this to obviate the necessity of serving out the provisions between-decks, which, he says, causes great confusion, and interferes with the cleaning of the ship on the days set apart for that purpose.

The emigrants by this vessel were of a very eligible class, and found ready employment.

The "Thetis" arrived on the 31st of August, having been 104 days on the voyage; she brought 227 emigrants; seven births and seven deaths occurred at sea.

This vessel, in its present state, is not well-adapted for an emigrant ship; the rigging is old and bad, and there was great leakage throughout the ship on both sides, wetting the bedding and causing great discomfort to the emigrants.

I think it wonderful that sickness did not prevail to a much greater extent on board this ship. The people seemed a very eligible class, finding ready employment; and the surgeon-superintendent performed his duties very satisfactorily.

At the muster, a strange but serious complaint was lodged by four single girls against the surgeon-superintendent. On investigating this charge, I found that these four girls were the worst-behaved females on board, and it seemed that they had agreed among themselves to make a charge against the doctor, by way of making the first attack; but there was abundant evidence that their accusation was utterly untrue.

The "Confiance" arrived on the 12th September, and landed 334 souls; there were five births and two deaths, one of which was a new-born infant. She arrived in good order, but the young women, being upwards of 100 in number, were not generally of the class in demand

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

demand in the colony, and many remained unhired in the depôt at the final disembarkation of the emigrants.

The surgeon-superintendent states, that great inconvenience resulted from the water-closets getting constantly out of order, although one constable was specially appointed to take charge of them. He complains of the porter and port wine put on board as medical comforts, being of inferior quality.

During the past quarter some of the ships have had a separate oven and a baker appointed, to enable the emigrants to get a supply of soft bread; but the patent yeast put on board, or the mode in which the ovens are constructed, do not seem to answer the purpose intended, the bread not being light and digestible. Some suggestions have been made to obviate the difficulty; one of which is, that malt and hops should be used on board instead of patent yeast; and another, that the ovens should be built round with a casing of bricks, to prevent them from cooling too quickly. Both of these suggestions seem to me worthy of attention. I would recommend the ovens to be placed in some part of the ship at a distance from the emigrants' apartments. In the "Confiance," the heat of the oven caused inconvenience to those emigrants who were placed in the poop part of the ship.

By a letter from the Commissioners, I am instructed that in all vessels sailing from England after the month of May, one constable is to be appointed to superintend exclusively the proper management of the water-closets; for which duty a larger gratuity is to be given than to ordinary constables. I think this regulation calculated to be very useful. Only one vessel, the "Confiance," has arrived since that rule took effect.

The engagements into which the emigrants enter, to repay a proportion of their passage-money in the event of their leaving the colony before the expiration of four years, have practically been of little use. I have, on several occasions, endeavoured to enforce these engagements; but, except in one instance, without any result. The difficulties I experience are numerous. The immigrants who sign the engagements, and who wish to leave the colony, attempt to do so almost invariably under feigned names, to avoid the payment of their notes; and I find that it is impossible to obtain such information as will enable me to identify them, and to get a judgment in the local courts under the Fugitive Debtor Ordinance; indeed, many of the notes are for a sum beyond the jurisdiction of the local courts. The only means I have of becoming acquainted with the names of those about to leave the colony is by the inspection of the passengers' list, which is brought for my signature immemediately before the clearance of the ship at the Custom-house. I am not authorized to refuse my signature to this document if the provisions of the Passenger Act, 1852, have been fulfilled; and as the ship generally sails immediately after clearance, there is not time afforded to take the necessary legal steps, even could the individuals be identified. Unless the persons who sign these engagements are of themselves willing to act in good faith, the facilities for leaving the colony and evading the payment of these notes are innumerable. It would appear, from the way in which the present system has hitherto worked, that unless some mode of surveillance be adopted, that it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to recover the amounts due. In confirmation of this view, I received a letter dated 23d December 1853, from Mr. Walcott, the secretary to the Emigration Commissioners, stating that the system of written engagements had been abandoned in the other colonies.

I must direct attention to the fact, that the young women who arrived in the "Nugget" and "Confiance," were of a class quite unfitted for the wants of the colonists; the greatest difficulty is experienced in procuring employment for such persons.

The proportionate numbers which have arrived from the three kingdoms for the last quarter, are, England, 1,129; Scotland, 111; Ireland, 413; total, 1,653.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. Duncan*, M.D.,
Immigration Agent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

ANSWERS to QUERIES.

1. WHAT is the expense of erecting a country dwelling suitable to an agricultural labourer? From 30 *l.* to 70 *l.*

2. What is the rent of a town lodging suitable to a mechanic and his family?—Ten shillings a week and upwards.

3. What funds have been placed at your disposal during the past quarter for the relief of emigrants?—None.

4. Is there any fund in the colony for the relief of destitute poor?—A sum of money is annually voted, and put under the charge of the Destitute Poor Board.

5. State the description of labour which is in request in the colony?—Agricultural labourers, and good domestic servants; also mechanics.

6. Would the rate of immigration of the last quarter satisfy the existing demand for labour?—It might be safely increased.

7. Could it be safely increased with reference to the supplies of food in the colony?—Quite safely.

8. State any particulars relative to emigration, and the demand for labour which you think may be useful?—Latterly the demand for mechanics for building purposes has been great, and is likely to increase.

No. 1.—ABSTRACT QUARTERLY RETURNS.

IMMIGRANTS.

Months composing the Quarter.	Number of Emigrant Vessels arrived.	Number of Deaths on Board or in Quarantine.	Number of Births on Board or in Quarantine.	Gross Number of Immigrants arrived.	Number of Adult Labourers.	Number of Agricultural Labourers.	Number of Shepherds.	Number of Domestic Servants.		Number of Mechanics engaged in erecting Buildings, or in obtaining or preparing Building Materials.	Number of Tradesmen making or selling Articles of Consumption.	Number of Trades-people engaged in making Articles of Clothing.		Number of other Mechanics, &c., not included in the foregoing Columns.
								M.	F.			M.	F.	
July - - -	2	18	14	590	12	80	–	–	85	—				
August - - -	3	14	13	729	45	45	–	–	76	—				
September - -	1	2	5	334	63	10	–	–	108	—				
TOTALS - -	6	34	32	1,653	120	135	–	–	269	—				

The greater number of the young women entered as domestic servants were fit for the roughest kinds of farm work only.

[The latest return of prices and wages will be found at pp. 133, 134.]

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ABSTRACT RETURN of Immigration and Emigration at Port Adelaide, during the Quarter ended 30 September 1854.

NAME OF PORT.	IMMIGRATION.				EMIGRATION.			
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
GREAT BRITAIN:								
London	542	460	145	158	11	6	-	-
Liverpool	123	190	55	58	—			
Southampton	62	107	22	43	—			
Plymouth	89	121	28	38	—			
BRITISH COLONIES:								
Melbourne	863	133	48	39	667	234	85	78
Sydney	46	7	7	3	22	18	2	7
Hobart Town	8	2	-	-	6	5	3	1
Launceston	59	12	3	3	—			
Western Australia	78	45	21	25	—			
Singapore	41	5	5	—				
Ceylon	-	-	-	-	13	2	3	—
New Zealand	-	-	-	-	2	6	3	2
Bally	6	—						
FOREIGN STATES:								
Hamburgh	186	87	20	22	—			
Gottenburg	3	1	—					
Batavia	3	2	—					
Manila	2	—						
Bordeaux	3	—						
Callao	-	-	-	-	-	1	—	
Valparaiso	-	-	-	-	1	—		
Cochin	-	-	-	-	1	1	—	
GENERAL SUMMARY:								
Great Britain	816	878	250	297	11	6	-	5
British Colonies	1,101	204	84	70	710	265	96	88
Foreign States	197	90	20	22	2	2	—	
TOTAL	2,114	1,172	354	389	723	273	96	93
	723	273	96	93	—			
EXCESS of IMMIGRATION	1,391	899	258	296	—			

Total Male Immigrants, 2,468; Total Female Immigrants, 1,561; Total Male Emigrants, 819; Total Female Emigrants, 366.

Excess of Male Immigrants, 907; Excess of Male Emigrants, 453.

Immigration, 4,029; Emigration, 1,185. Excess of Immigration, 2,844.

(signed) *H. Duncan*, M.D.,
Immigration Agent.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

— No. 3. —

(No. 96.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young* to the Right Hon. Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

No. 3. Governor Sir H. E. F. Young to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey. 1 November 1854

Adelaide, 1 November 1854.
(Received, 30 January 1855.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose a commissariat certificate of this date, for Thirty-five thousand pounds (35,000 *l.*) as a remittance to the Land and Emigration Commissioners, to be applied to the introduction of labour into South Australia.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. F. Young.*

— No. 4. —

(No. 17.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Acting-Governor *Finniss* to the Right Hon. Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

No. 4. Acting Governor Finniss to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey. 10 February 185

Adelaide, 10 February 1855.
(Received, 30 May 1855.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose the usual Report of the Immigration Agent for the quarter ending 31st December last.

I have, &c.
(signed) *B. T. Finniss.*

Enclosure in No. 4.

Encl. in No. 4.

IMMIGRATION AGENT'S REPORT, for the Quarter ended 31 December 1854.

Immigration Office, Port Adelaide,
January 1854.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of his Excellency the Officer administering the Government, the report of the immigration department for the quarter ending 31st December 1854.

During that period of time, ten ships chartered by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, have arrived, bringing to the colony an aggregate number of 3,414 souls.

The "Pestongee Bomanjee" arrived from Southampton on the 7th of October, having made the voyage in 112 days; 303 souls were landed. Five births and ten deaths were the casualties during the voyage.

Fever to a considerable extent prevailed during the voyage. It seems to me that cleanliness had not been sufficiently enforced; and I have little doubt that the prevalence, if not the origin of the sickness, was caused by that neglect.

In all other respects the surgeon-superintendent used every means to promote the comfort and health of the people, so that there is little doubt that his want of experience in the management of emigrants was the cause of the laxity of discipline at first; which, during the voyage, he found it difficult, if not impossible, to rectify. The stoppage of the certificate for return passage-money to England, was considered as a sufficient warning to him to act with more decision if he were again entrusted with the charge of an emigrant ship; and his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor was pleased to approve this recommendation, and to order that the certificate should be withheld.

The "Lord Raglan" arrived from Plymouth on the 23d October, having been 99 days at sea. Six births and four deaths occurred at sea, and 372 souls were landed in the colony.

It was very evident, at the first visit to the ship, that the surgeon-superintendent was totally unfitted for such a charge, and could not maintain regularity or discipline.

No complaints, however, were made either against the surgeon or the officers of the ship, with the exception of a charge made by the surgeon-superintendent against the chief officer for familiarity with one of the single girls. However, on a perusal of the surgeon's journal, charges of such a serious character were there entered against the master and officers of the ship, that it was considered necessary that these circumstances should be carefully investigated.

The Immigration Board sat three successive days investigating the matter, when it appeared to them, with the exception of a complaint against the first officer, that all the other

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

other grave charges in the surgeon's journal were utterly devoid of fact and without foundation.

The charge against the first mate, otherwise a very efficient officer, was considered to be proved in so far as he had paid marked attention to one of the single girls. It was clearly shown that these attentions were with the entire concurrence of the father and mother of the young woman, were honourable in their motive, and devoid of the slightest approach to indecorum.

The Board were of opinion, that such intimacies of the officers with the single women should not be allowed to exist on board ship; as they tended to show a bad example to the crew, and were otherwise calculated to undermine the discipline, and interfere with the authority of the surgeon-superintendent.

The Board gave it as their opinion, that had it not been for the energy of the master and officers of the "Lord Raglan," that the surgeon could not have maintained anything like discipline on board; that he was quite unfit to manage an emigrant ship, and that he ought not to be again entrusted with such a charge.

His Excellency the Lieutenant-governor was pleased so far to approve of the Report of the Immigration Board (a copy of which his Excellency directed to be sent to the Commissioners), and at the same time to represent to them the advisableness of making known to all officers of emigrant ships, that a penalty will be attached to them if they pay particular attention to any female emigrant on board, even though such attentions may be perfectly innocent.

The "Emigrant" arrived from Southampton on the 24th October, having been 105 days at sea. The casualties during the voyage were three births and two deaths; 313 souls were landed in the colony.

In consequence of serious charges having been made against the master, the first mate, surgeon-superintendent, and the matron of the ship, the Immigration Board was engaged during four days in investigating the various complaints.

The Immigration Board found that the chief mate had been improperly familiar with one of the young women, and that the matron had done all in her power to insult and annoy the surgeon-superintendent, and had endeavoured to undermine his authority during the whole course of the voyage. His Excellency the Lieutenant-governor was pleased so far to approve of the report of the Board as to order the gratuities of first mate and of the matron to be withheld.

The "Isle of Thanet" arrived from Plymouth on the 24th October, after a passage of 90 days. Two births and two deaths, both of children, occurred at sea. There were 233 immigrants landed in the colony.

The "Isle of Thanet" arrived in excellent order, and the general management and discipline was most judicious.

The "James Fernie" arrived from Liverpool on the 16th of September, having been 91 days at sea. Thirty deaths and three births were the casualties. Three hundred and forty-nine immigrants were landed in the colony.

This ship left Liverpool while cholera was prevailing in England, and a few days after sailing the disease broke out and 22 emigrants died in consequence. In some cases the disease assumed its most malignant form; fatal collapse occurring without premonitory symptoms. The last death from cholera took place on the 19th September, when the ship was in latitude 8 north. I think that the surgeon-superintendent used every means which professional knowledge could suggest, not only for the treatment of the disease while it existed, but also to prevent it spreading on board.

The "Dirago" arrived from Liverpool on the 22d November, after a passage of 107 days She landed 482 immigrants. Fourteen deaths and twelve births took place at sea.

This ship arrived in very excellent order. The cleanliness, general management and discipline of the people, reflected the highest credit on Mr. W. L. Ecklen, the surgeon-superintendent. The ship itself was of a first-class character for emigrants, having ample room and height between decks, and was well ventilated. The male and female hospitals were large and convenient. The surgeon-superintendent speaks highly of the efficient support and co-operation he received from the master and all the officers of the ship. The mortality, with one exception, was confined to young and delicate children, and was caused chiefly by diarrhœa.

The surgeon-superintendent seems to have had more trouble with enforcing the regulations among the single men, than all the others on board. He speaks highly of the conduct of the single women, who were a well-selected set of persons, and adapted for the requirements of the colony.

In this ship the baking succeeded better than usual. The size of the oven precluded the possibility of baking, twice in the week, a sufficient quantity for all the people; but it was arranged that the baker should bake four times in the week, which was sufficient to supply all the emigrants with soft bread twice a week. The yeast used was made by using what the surgeon called porter bottoms, and answered well. The form and size of loaves found the best, were those baked in square tins, containing 2 lbs. each, supplied by the Commissioners for the use of the emigrants. The oven contained 26 tins, and the time required for each batch was about two hours; the 12 oz. of flour yielded about 14½ oz. of bread.

I have been thus particular in describing the system of baking adopted on board the "Dirago," because in all other ships the baking of soft bread has turned out quite a failure.

The first requisite to ensure success is to appoint a man as baker who is properly qualified, and

and who ought to prove his efficiency by baking good bread before the ship is despatched to sea; and sufficient space should be given, so that his work may be done properly. The surgeon-superintendent suggests that one or two extra floor-plates for the oven should be sent, as the first, from continual use, is burnt through before the ending of the voyage. I think that in all respects the "Dirago" was the model of an emigrant ship.

The "Lord of the Isles" arrived from Southampton on the 2d December, after a passage of 95 days. Twelve deaths and two births were the casualties at sea.

In consequence of several complaints having been made against the surgeon-superintendent, the Immigration Board sent to inquire into the circumstance. After investigating the complaints, the Board were of opinion that the surgeon-superintendent had greatly neglected his duty in not attending to the cleanliness of the ship, and mustering of the people according to his printed regulations—that, consequently filth and vermin prevailed among the people. The Board recommended that the gratuity of the surgeon should be reduced from 10*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* on each immigrant landed alive; and further, the Board, considering the surgeon quite incompetent, recommended that he should not again be entrusted with the charge of an emigrant ship. His Excellency the Officer administering the Government was pleased to ratify and confirm the recommendation of the Board; and further, to direct that a copy of the report should be forwarded to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

In this ship there were five deaths from malignant cholera; but, as in the case of the "James Fernie," the disease ceased as soon as the ship had left the latitudes where cholera was epidemic.

The "Marion" arrived from Liverpool on the 10th of December, with 384 immigrants, having been 106 days at sea; fifteen deaths and eight births occurred during the voyage. All the deaths were caused by a low kind of continued fever, which prevailed during the whole voyage, and attacked every one on board. It is difficult to account for the prevalence of fever, as the ship was very clean, and the surgeon-superintendent seems to have performed his duty with zeal and efficiency. All the deaths which occurred, were of infants or children not above twelve months old.

The emigrants by this ship were of a class well suited for the colony, and seem to have been carefully selected.

The "Standard" arrived from Plymouth on the 17th December, having been 90 days at sea; fourteen deaths and seven births were the casualties during the voyage; of the deaths two only were those of adults.

Captain Blyth, the master of the ship, has brought emigrants on several occasions to South Australia, and has on every occasion endeared himself to the people by his kindness. The surgeon-superintendent acted very efficiently.

The emigrants were well selected, and were a very eligible class of persons.

The "Star Queen" arrived from Southampton on the 29th December, having made the voyage in 90 days. Ten deaths and eight births occurred at sea.

The emigrants in this ship also were well selected. The matron, appointed in England, was superseded for incompetency, and another appointed by the surgeon-superintendent in her room.

Diarrhœa prevailed to a considerable extent throughout the voyage.

The ship, as well as the bedding and persons of the emigrants, were clean and tidy.

One case of malignant cholera occurred the day after the ship sailed, and proved fatal in five hours.

No other case of cholera is reported after the sailing of the ship, though dysentery and fever prevailed more or less throughout the voyage.

The steward of the ship charges against the quantity of medical comforts laid in according to the charter-party, twelve bottles of porter, five bottles of brandy, and two bottles of wine, delivered and consumed by persons visiting the ship on Government account. This, if it be correct, is a very improper mode of disposing of stores intended for the relief of the sick while at sea.

The surgeon-superintendent suggests that the fore hatchway should be covered with close iron grating, locked down, and that this hatchway should not be allowed as a means of communication with the between-decks. Many of the married women are disposed to have communication with the sailors, and this fore hatchway affords far too ready a means of access to the forecastle, and from the forecastle to the emigrants' apartments. This suggestion seems so proper, that I think it ought to be immediately adopted. The main and after hatchway are sufficient for all necessary communication with the deck. The after ventilator, which communicates with the single womens' apartments, is used as a means of transmitting letters to and from the single girls. The remedy to this is simple and inexpensive; a fine wire grating at the centre of the shaft will prevent all communication, and not interfere in the slightest degree with the ventilation. So constant are the complaints made by the surgeon-superintendents of the facilities thus afforded of communication with the single women, that it appears desirable that the evil should be immediately rectified.

The single women are nominally locked up every night, but, in many instances, the locks are of the most common description, so that any key will open the door. A good lock and key,

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different from any used in the ship, ought to be provided for the single women's apartments. If they are to be locked up at night, let it be done really and effectually. In a ship which arrived lately there were seven keys for different places on board, any one of them could open the apartment of the single women. In some ships, part of the poops is used for a few of the married people, and the after cabins form the female hospital. This is an excellent arrangement, but in some ships the female hospital opens into the apartment of the single women; this is a most injudicious system, and ought not to be used. In the first place, it is the most noisy part of the ship; and in the second place, it makes necessary an almost constant thoroughfare by night or day through the single women's place. Many disputes and misunderstanding arise on board from the beds not being numbered, as they ought to be, on deck, very frequently they get so mixed that there are constant disputes about ownership. This error is easily rectified by causing every bed, blanket, and coverlet, to be stamped with a special number. An objection, less easily rectified, exists to the substance with which the beds are filled; cotton, which is now used, has many objections; it absorbs and retains moisture, causing an offensive and unhealthy smell, and long ere the end of the voyage, gets into hard knotty lumps, which makes the beds most uncomfortable for use. At the same time the floor of each bed-place is made of deal, which does not allow the escape of the moisture caused by perspiration. In the morning, immediately after the emigrants have risen, the deal boards, on which their beds are placed, are damp and greasy, caused by the perspiration, it having no escape. These accumulated secretions in a crowded ship vitiate the atmosphere and produce disease, and being absorbed by the cotton, with which the beds are filled, cannot be got rid of by ventilation.

I would suggest that the whole system should be changed. That the floor of the bed-places should be made of canvas, which could be hooked on or taken away at pleasure; that there should be no bed, but that a double blanket should be furnished for the emigrant to lie on, in addition to the usual quantity of bed-clothes. This would make the accommodation for the emigrant as nearly resembling the sailor's hammock as possible. The bed-clothes, the blankets, and the sacking forming the floor, could be taken on deck every morning, and exposed to the air; occupying little space, and taking little time or trouble. The whole floor of the deck would be open to be scraped and cleaned without difficulty; no accumulation of dirt could take place under the bottom boards, as is now frequently the case, and the time and trouble consumed in scrubbing the bottom boards wholly saved; the accumulation of morbid secretions, which vitiate the atmosphere and produce disease, would be prevented, and the personal comfort of the emigrant would be increased without additional expense.

While on this subject, it is well to call the attention of the Commissioners to the ventilation of the ship. The present means of ventilating by the shafts, fore and aft, and the hatchway and wind-sails, are excellent when there is any wind; but when a ship is becalmed in the tropics, or elsewhere, some other means of changing the air below is really necessary.

The most common and constant kind of sickness on board ships is diarrhœa. Change of habits and diet may, in a great measure, account for it; but it has been suggested to me by the surgeon-superintendent of the "Star Queen," that if the sharps were separated from all flour and biscuits used on board, that it is his opinion there would be much less tendency to irritation of the bowels, which he considers to be aggravated by the sharps which are not separated in the biscuits issued according to the charter-party. The quantity of biscuits might be diminished without injury, if a finer quality were supplied. The same gentleman suggests that the quantity of salt beef should be slightly increased, for there is so much bone, that, after cooking, there is a very small proportion of meat for each person.

As this gentleman has made five voyages as surgeon-superintendent in Commissioners' ships, I think his opinion ought to carry considerable weight. The water-closets on board are still a frequent source of annoyance. One suggestion, I think, if adopted, would obviate much of the annoyance experienced from their occasional overflow. The floor of these places, if laid with india rubber pavement, having a ledge of six inches in height all round, any occasional overflow of water would never run over the deck, but could be mopped up immediately.

I had occasion, in the two preceding quarterly reports, to call attention to the fact, that a large proportion of the single females sent out were of a class quite unsuitable for the wants of the colonists. The class of young women really in demand are well-trained domestic servants, whereas a large number are sent here who have been accustomed to no domestic service whatever before embarkation. A large proportion are from the rural districts of Ireland, and they have been found so unsuitable, that a prejudice has arisen against all Irish servants, so that it is difficult now to find families willing to engage them. The superintendent of the depôt informs me, that the attention of the Commissioners ought to be specially directed to the circumstance, and that they should be requested to discontinue sending to this colony a class of persons for which there is really no demand. A letter has been received from the Secretary to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, dated 27 September 1854, stating that, in consequence of remarks respecting the demand for labour contained in his Excellency's despatch to the Secretary of State, which accompanied the Blue Book, that the Board has decided to increase the rate of emigration to the colony, in November and December, from three to four ships per month.

In the same letter it is stated that the Commissioners had discontinued the practice of obliging the emigrants to enter into an engagement to repay a certain sum, in the event of their leaving the colony before the expiration of four years.

Single farm servants (male), who really understand agricultural work, are at present more in demand than married men.

The proportion of the Government immigrants, during the last quarter, from the three kingdoms, is as follows:—From England, 2,308; Scotland, 622; Ireland, 481.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. Duncan*, M. D.,
Immigration Agent.

To the Hon. the Acting Colonial Secretary.

No. 1.—Abstract Quarterly Returns.

Immigrants.

Months composing the Quarter.	Number of Emigrant Vessels arrived.	Number of Deaths on Board or in Quarantine.	Number of Births on Board or in Quarantine.	Gross Number of Immigrants arrived.	Number of Adult Labourers.	Number of Agricultural Labourers.	Number of Shepherds.	Number of Domestic Servants.		Number of Mechanics engaged in erecting Buildings, or in obtaining or preparing Building Materials.	Number of Tradesmen making or selling Articles of Consumption.	Number of Tradespeople engaged in making Articles of Clothing.		Number of other Mechanics, &c. not included in the foregoing Columns.
								M.	F.			M.	F.	
October - -	4	18	16	1,221	69	65	3	-	199	116	2	6	10	131
November - -	2	46	15	831	13	78	11	-	180	60	2	2	8	76
December - -	4	51	25	1,362	26	57	7	-	184	135	5	3	4	112
Totals - -	10	115	56	3,414	108	200	21	-	563	311	9	11	22	319

[The latest return of prices and wages will be found at pp. 133, 134.]

Answers to Queries.

1. What is the expense of erecting a country dwelling suitable to an agricultural labourer?—From 30 *l.* to 60 *l.*

2. What is the rent of a town lodging suitable to a mechanic and his family?—Ten shillings a week.

3. What funds have been placed at your disposal during the past quarter for the relief of immigrants?—None.

4. Is there any fund in the colony for the relief of destitute poor?—An annual sum is voted, and placed under the control of the Destitute Poor Board.

5. State the description of labour which is in request in the colony?—Single male farm labourers, and good domestic servants.

6. Would the rate of immigration of the last quarter satisfy the existing demand for labour?—I think so.

7. Could it be safely increased with reference to the supplies of food in the colony?—Quite safely.

8. State any particulars relative to immigration, and the demand for labour which you think may be useful?—At present, owing to a deficient crop, from an unusual want of rain during the past winter, and owing, at the same time, to a dulness of trade, produced by temporary causes, the supply of labour has been equal to the demand; but as yet there has been no excess of labour. A large proportion of the young women sent out are totally unacquainted with domestic service, and are consequently not in demand.

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Abstract Return of Immigration and Emigration at Port Adelaide, during the Quarter ended 31 December 1854.

NAME of PORT.	Immigration.				Emigration.			
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Great Britain:								
London	611	710	252	217	11	13	2	2
Liverpool	370	531	118	161	72	14	1	1
Glasgow	11	6	1	4	—			
Southampton	83	132	51	51	—			
Jersey	92	50	29	27	—			
British Colonies:								
Sydney	72	19	4	10	3	5	2	3
Melbourne	946	231	89	79	527	237	88	81
Singapore	21	1	1	—				
Mauritius	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	- -	2
Freemantle	90	59	37	33	4	1	—	
Hobart Town	1	1	- -	- -	2	—		
Port Leichnault	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	—		
Recherche Bay	- -	- -	- -	- -	3	1	1	1
Swan River	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	—		
Auckland	- -	- -	- -	- -	29	9	2	2
Ceylon	- -	- -	- -	- -	6	1	—	
Foreign States:								
Hamburgh	201	118	44	41	—			
Batavia	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	1	5	5
General Summary:								
Great Britain	1,157	1,429	451	460	83	27	3	3
British Colonies	1,130	311	131	122	558	254	93	89
Foreign States	201	118	44	41	1	1	5	5
Total	2,488	1,858	616	623	642	282	101	97
	642	282	101	97	—			
Excess of Immigration	1,846	1,576	515	526	—			

Immigration, 5,585; Emigration, 1,122. Excess of Immigration, 4,463.

(signed) *H. Duncan*, M.D.,
Immigration Agent.

— No. 5. —

(No. 20.)

No. 5.
Acting Governor Finniss to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey.
5 March 1855.

Copy of DESPATCH from Acting-Governor *Finniss* to the Right Hon. Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Adelaide, 5 March 1855.
(Received, 2 July 1855.)

Sir.

I have the honour to enclose a commissariat certificate for Sixteen thousand pounds (16,000 *l.*), which I request may be handed to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to be applied to the introduction of labour into South Australia.

Of

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Of this amount 4,465 *l.* has been received into the Colonial Treasury between the 1st July 1853 and the 31st December 1854, as deposits in aid of emigration, under the Commissioners' regulations, No. 22, of April 1853.

I have, &c.
(signed) *B. T. Finniss.*

— No. 6. —

No. 6.
Acting Governor Finniss to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey.
7 April 1855.

Extract of DESPATCH from Acting-Governor *Finniss* to the Right Hon. Sir *George Grey*, Bart. ; dated Adelaide, 7 April 1855. (No. 29.)

(Received, 21 September 1855.)

"Population."

"The number of persons of European descent was, at the close of 1853, assumed to be 78,944 souls.

"At the close of the year 1854, this number had increased to 92,545 souls.

"The number of Government immigrants during this period was 8,814. The excess of births over deaths amounted to 2,105. Hence the increase of the population at the close of the year, which amounted to 13,601 souls, must have arisen chiefly from an excess of arrivals over departures.

"A constant interchange of population is going on, which will be best understood by giving the number of arrivals, which was 18,333, and departures, which was 6,844. The Government immigrants despatched by the Land and Emigration Commissioners, arrived in 30 vessels at various periods of the year, and were much needed, as from the want of labour during the early part of 1854, it was difficult to obtain contracts for the various public works which were on the estimates.

"This state of things gradually improved, and before the close of the year it became evident that all works for which provision had been made in the estimates, might be safely and advantageously proceeded with."

— No. 7. —

No. 7.
Acting Governor Finniss to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey.
20 April 1855.

(No. 31.)

Copy of DESPATCH from Acting-Governor *Finniss* to the Right Hon. Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Adelaide, 20 April 1855.
(Received, 21 September 1855.)

Sir,

I have the honour of enclosing a commissariat certificate for Eleven thousand five hundred pounds, (11,500 *l*). which I request may be handed to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to be applied to the introduction of labour into South Australia.

I have, &c.
(signed) *B. T. Finniss.*

— No. 8. —

No. 8.
Acting Governor Finniss to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey.
11 May 1855.

(No. 34.)

Copy of DESPATCH from Acting-Governor *Finniss* to the Right Hon. Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Adelaide, 11 May 1855.
(Received, 21 September 1855.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 15, 15 October 1855, page 143.)

I have the honour to inclose for your information the usual annual returns of the immigration agent for the year ended the 31st December 1854, together with his report upon the state of the department as respects this colony. The points

(A.) to (H.), 1854.

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to which I would specially call your attention are, the increase to the population, occasioned by the excess of arrivals over departures, which amounted to 11,791 souls; and the increased ratio of Irish immigrants sent out to this colony by the Land and Emigration Commissioners, as compared with the previous year.

In 1853 they numbered only 9 per cent. of the emigration, whilst in 1854 they amounted to 27 per cent. The men obtain employment readily, but the single Irish women are not so easily settled down, owing to their ignorance of household service.

I have, &c.
(signed) *B. T. Finniss.*

Encl. in No. 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Sir, Immigration Office, Port Adelaide, 8 May 1855.

I HAVE the honour to forward for the perusal of his Excellency the Officer administering the Government, the annual returns on immigration and emigration for the year 1854, consisting of eight Tables of statistical information, marked (A.) to (H.)

By comparing the first of these Tables marked (A.), with the corresponding return for the year 1853, his Excellency will perceive that increased assisted immigration has taken place during the past year. Total number of immigrants landed in 1853, 4,583; in 1854, 8,824; number of ships arriving in 1853, 14; in 1854, 30. The average number of deaths in ships during the year 1853, four per cent.; in 1854 two and a half per cent. Far the greatest proportion of deaths occur amongst the young children.

In the year 1853, of 3,049 persons above 14 years embarked for this colony, 39 died, being 1 in 78. In the year 1854, of 6,378 above 14 years embarked for this colony, 41 died, being a fraction more than 1 in 155. The comparison thus drawn, suggests to my mind a very favourable view of the zeal with which the Land and Emigration Commissioners have used every means in their power to improve the general management of emigrant vessels. The following is a Table of the average contract price per statute adult for some years:

	£.	s.	d.
In 1850	10	18	5
1851	10	13	$3\frac{1}{4}$
1852	13	12	$7\frac{10}{19}$
1853	18	11	$1\frac{3}{4}$
1854	20	2	$2\frac{1}{4}$

In the year 1853 the average number of days taken by ships to make the voyage was $105\frac{11}{14}$ days, while in 1854, the average duration of the passage has been $100\frac{1}{10}$ days.

In Table marked (B.) showing the counties of the United Kingdom from which the emigrants for this colony have been selected, it appears by a comparison of the same return for the former year, that in 1853, out of a total immigration of 4,583, there were,—

From England	3,506,	or 77 per cent.
„ Scotland	652 „	14 per cent.
„ Ireland	425 „	9 per cent.

while in the year 1854, out of a total of 8,103 immigrants, of which number only there are any returns of the counties, there were,—

From England	4,956,	or 61 per cent.
„ Scotland	937 „	11 per cent.
„ Ireland	2,210 „	27 per cent.

In return marked (C.), the occupations of the immigrants during the year are given, excepting those per "Time and Truth," of which no record was received.

Return marked (D.) shows the total amount of immigration and emigration assisted and otherwise, by which it appears that the excess of immigration over emigration amounted to 11,791 souls, being of females 5,528, and of males 6,263, so that the actual excess of males over females immigrating during the year 1854 is only 735. In return marked (E.), I think it right to inform his Excellency that the births and deaths there mentioned refer solely to Government immigrants; there are no data in this office nor I believe in the colony, by which to arrive at the number of births and deaths in private passenger ships.

Return (E.)

Return marked (F.) gives the proportion of immigrants at the different ages sent out by the Commissioners, distinguishing the sexes, by which it appears there was an excess of 1,604 females sent by the Commissioners.

Return marked (G.) contains a tabular view of the different religious persuasions of the immigrants by each ship during the year, distinguishing the males and females.

Return

Return marked (H.) shows the state of education of the immigrants by each ship, distinguishing the ages of the people.

In forwarding these returns, I beg you will assure his Excellency that I have taken great care to make them as correct as possible.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Duncan*, M. D.,
Immigration Agent.

The Honourable
The Acting Colonial Secretary.

(The Returns marked (A.), (B.), (C.), (D.), (F.), (G.), and (H.), being very voluminous, are not printed.)

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 8.

(E.)

RETURN of the Total Number of Immigrants who arrived in this Colony in 1854, who paid their own Passage; also Government Immigrants, and the Particulars of Casualties, &c., connected with the latter.

	SOULS.	BIRTHS.	DEATHS.
Immigrants paying their own passage - - - -	8,434	—	—
Government Immigrants - - - - - -	8,824	—	—
Casualties - - - - - - - - - -	- -	166	228
Total Immigration - - -	17,258		

(signed) *H. Duncan*, M. D.,
Immigration Agent.

— No. 9. —

(No. 35.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Acting-Governor *Finniss* to the Right Hon. Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

No. 9.
Acting Governor Finniss to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey.
12 May 1855.

Adelaide, 12 May 1855.
(Received, 21 September 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 15, 15 October 1855, page 143.)

I HAVE the honour to forward the quarterly returns of the immigration agent at Port Adelaide; and in doing so, I desire to call your attention to that paragraph of the report which accompanies the returns in which he alludes to the disproportionate number of young women sent out from Ireland.

At present there is considerable difficulty in finding service for these girls. From some causes, principally amongst others owing to the high price of the necessaries of life, arising out of the deficient harvest of 1854, female domestic servants are not in such demand as heretofore, the colonists preferring to reduce their establishments until the cost of living becomes less.

The consequence is, that in making a selection of servants, English and Scotch girls are preferred, as being better trained to domestic service, and the Irish girls have been left without employment, dependent upon the Government.

According to present returns, the number of female immigrants who are rationed by Government is 138, of whom 126 are Irish.

I abstain from offering any recommendation that there should in future be any diminution in the numbers of single women sent, because the present difficulty, I believe, is only temporary, and a change, consequent upon my report, might operate under altered circumstances; but I do not hesitate to point out that

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that the facts which I have brought to notice clearly indicate, that unless there is a very great scarcity of female servants in the colony at any one time, Irish girls of the untrained description lately sent out to this colony, will become a burthensome and unsuitable addition to the population.

I have, &c.
(signed) *B. T. Finniss.*

Encl. in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

IMMIGRATION AGENT'S REPORT, for the Quarter ended 31 March 1855.

Immigration Office, Port Adelaide,
April 1855.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of his Excellency the Officer administering the Government, the report of the Immigration Department for the quarter ending 31st March 1855.

During that time, seven ships chartered by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners have arrived, bringing to the colony an aggregate number of 2,193 souls. The casualties before disembarkation amounted to 27 deaths and 41 births.

The "Coromandel" left Southampton on the 20th September 1854, and arrived at Port Adelaide on the 8th January 1855, with 289 immigrants, having made the voyage in 111 days. Four deaths and six births took place at sea. There were 105 single women in the ship, almost all Irish, a class of persons for whom there is no demand. The cook's galley was most injudiciously placed immediately in front of the poop, which was partly occupied by emigrants. The heat and the smoke were a constant cause of annoyance during the voyage. The people were brought out in most excellent order, and all expressed themselves satisfied. They were under the care of Dr. James Barlas, the surgeon-superintendent, it being the fifth time he has had the charge of emigrants.

The "Magdalena" sailed from Plymouth on the 11th October, and arrived on the 16th January, having been 98 days at sea. She landed in the colony 326 souls. Four deaths and six births occurred before disembarkation. There were 79 young women on board, almost all of whom were Irish. The people were brought out in very good order.

The "Telegraph" sailed from Southampton on the 23d of October 1854, and arrived on the 23d of January 1855, with 427 immigrants. The casualties at sea were five deaths and 11 births. The immigrants by this ship were generally a most eligible class of persons. They arrived in excellent order under the medical superintendence of Mr. Henry Scott, of Kensington, a gentleman well known in the colony. The ship was roomy and well ventilated.

The "William Stevenson" sailed from Liverpool on the 7th November 1854, and arrived on the 1st February 1855. She landed in the colony 283 souls. Five deaths and four births occurred at sea. The good management and order of the people, and the cleanliness of the ship, reflected the greatest credit on Mr. William Campbell, the surgeon-superintendent. The people seemed generally well selected, and they were contented and happy.

The "Nile" left Plymouth on the 11th of November 1854. She arrived in Port Adelaide on the 18th February 1855 with 312 immigrants. Two deaths and eight births took place before disembarkation.

In consequence of some complaints regarding the proper issue of stores, the Immigration Board assembled to investigate the matter. It appeared to the Board that certain irregularities had existed for a considerable time at sea, but the emigrants had not made their complaints known to the proper quarter to obtain redress at the time, the surgeon-superintendent and master of the ship being in ignorance for some time that such irregularities existed; but, when made aware of the evils, they were immediately rectified.

The Board considered that, had the surgeon-superintendent maintained proper supervision, such irregularities would have been discovered by him at an earlier period.

A complaint was made by a woman, who lost her child at sea, that this child had been neglected by the surgeon-superintendent. The Board found that no entry had been made in a medical journal of either the sickness or the treatment of this child.

The Board, from the evidence adduced at this investigation, and also from personal observation of the conduct of the surgeon-superintendent while he remained at Port Adelaide, were of opinion that he was quite an unfit person to be again entrusted with the charge of emigrants, and that the certificate for return passage should be withheld. His Excellency the Officer administering the Government was pleased to approve of the recommendation of the Board.

This ship arrived in a dirty state between decks. It is astonishing that very little sickness prevailed during the voyage, only one death having occurred at sea; the second, which was caused by a sudden attack of croup, taking place while the ship lay in Port Adelaide.

The

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The "Rodney" sailed from Plymouth on the 21st November, and arrived on the 20th of February, bringing to the colony 321 souls. Seven deaths and six births took place at sea. The ship arrived in very good order; harmony and contentment prevailed on board.

The "Norman" left Southampton on the 2d of December 1854, and arrived in Port Adelaide on the 7th of March 1855. No deaths nor births took place on the voyage. This has not occurred in a Government emigrant ship since the year 1850, when the barque "British Empire" arrived under the same circumstances. The "Norman" arrived in apparently very excellent order, the passenger decks were clean, and the people seemed a respectable and well-selected class of persons. Unfortunately, however, there was a want of good feeling and mutual co-operation between the master and the surgeon-superintendent of the ship. The surgeon-superintendent refused to sign the certificate that the charter-party had been fulfilled; and many complaints, and some of serious character, were made by the emigrants.

In consequence of this the Immigration Board assembled, and sat several days investigating the nature of the complaints; and, on the 23d of March, presented to his Excellency their report.

They found that two charges were clearly proved against the master of the ship. First, that there had been indecent familiarities with one or more of the single women; and second, that the emigrants had been annoyed on crossing the line.

The 23d clause of the charty-party expressly stipulates that the emigrants shall not be molested on crossing the line; and that the master of the ship shall strictly prohibit and prevent, on the part of the crew or officers of the ship, any intercourse whatever with the female passengers on board. That any breach of either of these regulations will entail forfeiture of the passage-money, and of any gratuities which might otherwise have been payable to the offenders.

The Board stated that the familiarities of which the master in their opinion was guilty, though no attempt was made by his accusers to infer any criminal intention on his part, were yet of a nature which, if permitted in an emigrant ship, were calculated to lead to serious evil.

The Board had also full proof given them that many of the emigrants had water pumped upon them by the fire-engine on crossing the line; in consequence of which many of them were thoroughly drenched, and some of the young women attributed a long-continued illness to that cause. It was clearly proved that all this was done with the consent of the master.

The Immigration Board gave it as their opinion that, in the two respects above-mentioned, the 23d clause of the charter-party had been vitiated; and that, according to the stipulations therein contained, the passage-money was forfeited, as well as the gratuity otherwise payable to the master of the ship. But, during the investigation, it appeared to the Board that there was a most unfortunate want of good feeling and cordial co-operation between the master and the surgeon of the ship. The Board could not discover that the surgeon gave warning to the master of the consequences which would follow; and though the master of the ship ought not to have required warning to avoid the two errors which he committed, yet the Board felt convinced, had fair warning been given, that on arrival no such causes of complaint would have existed. They state that it was painfully evident to them during the investigation that there was a vindictive feeling of the surgeon-superintendent towards the master of the ship; and that the surgeon had watched in silence the master compromising himself and the charter-party, without entering a protest or giving warning of an irregularity, that a repetition would be followed by a formal complaint to the Colonial Government. The Immigration Board recommended that the gratuity of the master of the ship should be withheld, which they hoped would act as a warning to him to avoid hereafter the errors which have now taken place; as in all other respects it appeared to the Board that he had acted with kindness and consideration to the emigrants; and although, according to the strict letter of the charter-party, the passage-money was forfeited, yet the Board suggested to his Excellency that the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners should be requested not to arrest the passage-money, as the Board thought that the object sought to be obtained could be accomplished without such severity. His Excellency the Officer administering the Government was pleased to approve of the report, and of the suggestions therein contained, and to direct that a copy should be forwarded to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

Since the publication of the last quarterly report heavy rains have fallen in the colony; agricultural operations have commenced, and a demand for that kind of labour, which is necessary on a farm, has been the consequence.

Single farming men, who really understand ploughing and the other operations of husbandry, seem to be chiefly in demand at present, and will continue to be in demand during the wet season.

All other kinds of labour seem to be supplied rather in excess than demand; but there is no reason to apprehend that any man in health, who is willing to work, need remain ten days out of employment. The Colonial Government have lately offered facilities to the various district councils for the increased employment of men in making and repairing roads. It is generally believed that the district councils will most gladly accept the offer; and this will afford an outlet for the services of many for whom otherwise it might be difficult to find employment. It is a general opinion, and seems to be founded on reason, that for the next six months there will be no excess of demand for labour of any kind, which cannot be supplied by the present state of the colony, saving only good ploughmen. If Almighty God

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should bless this colony with an abundant harvest, the whole aspect of the labour market will be, in all probability, completely changed by the end of the year. It is undoubted that the scarcity of rain, and the bad harvest of last year, have had a most depressing effect on every branch of industry.

To one circumstance I must again urgently call the attention of his Excellency. The numbers of young women from Ireland are out of all proportion to the others. A very great proportion are quite unfit for respectable domestic service; and the consequence is, that it is almost impossible to get employment for them. At this time there are nearly 200 young women, almost all Irish, unemployed in the depôt and on board the ships, and it threatens to be a most serious evil to this colony. In many of the quarterly reports I have called the attention to this great error in the kind of girls selected. The result is, that the prejudice against the Irish women is so great, that really good Irish servants cannot now find families willing to engage them.

Let it be clearly understood that this prejudice did not originally exist; it has arisen solely from the circumstance that far the greatest number of the Irish girls sent were of a class utterly unfitted for domestic service of any kind.

The number of young women who arrived during the three months ending 31st March, were 514, of whom 306 were Irish; and since the beginning of this present month of April, 289 have arrived, of whom 205 are Irish.

I need not call the attention of his Excellency to the course of life to which this want of employment is likely to tempt the young women to resort.

It is a fact indisputable, that the class of persons to whom I allude are increasing most rapidly, and I fear the funds of this colony are being made subservient to add to the number of that unhappy sisterhood.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. Duncan*, M. D.,
Immigration Agent.

To the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

No. 1.—Abstract Quarterly Returns.

Immigrants.

Months composing the Quarter.	Number of Emigrant Vessels arrived.	Number of Deaths on Board or in Quarantine.	Number of Births on Board or in Quarantine.	Gross Number of Immigrants arrived.	Number of Adult Labourers.	Number of Agricultural Labourers.	Number of Shepherds.	Number of Domestic Servants.		Number of Mechanics engaged in erecting Buildings, or in obtaining or preparing Building Materials.	Number of Tradesmen making or selling Articles of Consumption.	Number of Tradespeople engaged in making Articles of Clothing.		Number of other Mechanics, &c., not included in the foregoing Columns.
								M.	F.			M.	F.	
January - -	3	13	23	1,042	19	68	2	–	265	—				
February - -	3	14	18	926	68	13	–	–	158	—				
March - -	1	–	–	225	2	36	1	–	51	—				
Totals - -	7	27	41	2,193	89	117	3	–	474	—				

No record of employments was received by the "Telegraph."

The immigrants whose occupations are not given in the foregoing columns were chiefly mechanics and miners.

[The latest returns of wages and prices will be found at pp. 133, 134.]

Answers to Queries.

1. What is the expense of erecting a country dwelling suitable to an agricultural labourer?—From 20*l.* to 60*l.*

2. What is the rent of a town lodging suitable to a mechanic and his family?—Eight shillings to ten shillings a week.

3. What funds have been placed at your disposal during the past quarter for the relief of immigrants?—None.

4. Is

4. Is there any fund in the colony for the relief of destitute poor?—An annual sum is voted, and placed under the control of the Destitute Poor Board.

5. State the description of labour which is in request in the colony?—Single ploughmen.

6. Would the rate of immigration of the last quarter satisfy the existing demand for labour?—The present rate of immigration is rather in excess of the demand.

7. Could it be safely increased, with reference to the supplies of food in the colony?—Safely.

8. State any particulars relative to immigration, and the demand for labour which you think may be useful?—I have nothing to state further than what I have stated at length in the report.

Abstract Return of Immigration and Emigration at Port Adelaide, during the Quarter ended 31 March 1855.

NAME of PORT.	Immigration.				Emigration.			
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Great Britain:								
London	638	774	257	240	116	59	27	21
Liverpool	89	111	41	39	—			
Southampton	183	288	80	85	—			
British Colonies:								
Melbourne	667	151	61	56	1,078	415	149	90
Sydney	15	4	1	- -	22	2	1	1
Geelong	1	- -	- -	- -	3	—		
King George's Sound	21	1	—					
Launceston	1	—						
Singapore	4	—						
Mauritius	1	- -	- -	- -	2	—		
Ceylon	- -	- -	- -	- -	29	13	2	3
Swan River	6	1	1	2	—			
Calcutta	- -	- -	- -	- -	3	—		
Hobart Town	7	1	- -	3	—			
Freemantle	3	3	2	4	—			
Bombay	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	—	
Portland	1	—						
Foreign States:								
Hamburgh	194	142	67	66	—			
Lombock	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	—		
General Summary:								
Great Britain	910	1,173	378	364	116	59	27	21
British Colonies	727	161	65	65	1,137	431	152	94
Foreign States	194	142	67	66	2	—		
Total	1,831	1,476	510	495	1,255	490	179	115
	1,255	490	179	115	—			
Excess of Immigration	576	986	331	380	—			

Immigration, 4,312; Emigration, 2,039. Excess of Immigration, 2,273.

H. Duncan, M. D.,
Immigration Agent.

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—No. 10.—

No. 10. Acting Governor Finniss to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey. 15 May 1855.

(No. 37.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Acting-Governor *Finnis* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*.

Adelaide, 15 May 1855.
(Received, 21 September 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 32, 8 July 1856, page 156.)

I HAVE the honour to report for the information of the Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whose secretary a separate communication enclosing the report of the immigration agent at Port Adelaide will be addressed, that on Sunday last, the 13th instant, the "Nashwauk" emigrant ship, with emigrants on board for Port Adelaide, stranded at the mouth of the Onkaparinga, about 20 miles from the entrance to Port Adelaide. Prompt assistance by sea and land was rendered, and I have the satisfaction to announce that the immigrants have all been safely disposed of without casualty.

The vessel is likely to become a wreck. There appears to have been misconduct on the part of the master, both as respects the navigation of the ship and his treatment of the immigrants. Upon these subjects I have ordered Boards of investigation; in the meantime no certificates of payment of freight will be signed by me.

I have, &c.
(signed) *B. T. Finniss.*

—No. 11.—

No. 11. Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell to the Right Hon. Lord J. Russell. 25 June 1855.

(No. 2.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell*, to the Right Honourable Lord *J. Russell*.

Government House, Adelaide, 25 June 1855.
(Received, 6 September 1855.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 8, 12 September 1855, page 142.)
(Answered, No. 4, 12 February 1856, page 144.)

1. HAVING so very recently arrived at the seat of my Government, I am naturally reluctant, without further local experience to put forward as yet, views opposed to any practice which I find existing. It is my duty, however, to state to Her Majesty's Government the great evils springing up here in consequence of the Emigration Commissioners sending to this colony so many single Irish women of a class, generally speaking, unfitted for colonial employment, and whose probable future destiny it is painful to contemplate.

2. On this subject I refer your Lordship to the despatch of Mr. Finniss then administering the Government, who in transmitting the immigration agent's last quarterly return, drew attention to the very disproportionate number of single women sent out from Ireland. At that time he stated the number of female immigrants rationed by Government to be 126; at present the number of Irish single women alone is more than 520, and with so little prospect of any diminution that no less than from five to eight, almost exclusively Irish, are every day returning from situations which they had obtained, their employers being unwilling to maintain them any longer.

No. 35, 12 May 1855. Page 103.

3. In addition to the above, there are five immigrant vessels, as per margin, expected to arrive with probably altogether 425 single women on board, of whom, judging from the average arrivals in the current year to this date; viz. 1,025 Irish out of a total of 1,630 single women; 265 will be Irish also, making a total of Irish single women to be supported at the public expense of 785; supposing the number disposed of during the next three months to equal the number returning from service.

"Constantine,"
"George Avery,"
"Velocity,"
"Taymouth Castle,"
"Sea Park."

4. I cannot but regard this state of things as productive of grave social embarrassment; that embarrassment is increased by the extremely high cost of living at the present moment, which compels many to reduce the number of their

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their domestic servants, but its primary cause is the unsuitableness individually of the immigrants themselves.

The "Grand Trianon."

5. Having visited the destitute asylum, the last arrived immigrant vessel in the port, and the German hospital, in which latter building 203 of the Irish single women are at present lodged, and having questioned and conversed freely with them myself, I cannot but express my very great surprise that two-thirds of those emigrants should have been selected at all. They are designated domestic servants, but appear almost quite ignorant of their duties as such, and indeed it would be difficult to know for what they are at present suited, unless it be to work as out-door agricultural labourers; such as hay-makers or reapers, and occasionally as dairy-maids, and even as actual tillers of the soil.

6. It is probable that the Emigration Commissioners may object to this description of the above emigrants, and if so disposed, may produce documentary and other testimony of an opposite character, by which no doubt they have themselves been misled. No evidence, however, can alter the plain facts which I have personally examined into, and which are palpable to the whole community here, and I therefore trust Her Majesty's Government will not expend any valuable time in inquiries, which cannot now remedy the evil, but will immediately stop all such emigration for the present, where the single females are not accompanied by near male relatives. This complete stoppage of such emigration has become necessary, because even if eligible single females were now to be sent here from Ireland, the prejudice just now created against them in consequence of the class of persons already sent by the Emigration Commissioners is so great, that there would be considerable difficulty in finding them suitable employment.

7. At the same time it is but just to those females, who find themselves in their present unfortunate position, to state that their conduct, generally speaking, has been as yet good; I need scarcely add that I shall use my best efforts to get them gradually distributed over the colony; and I am about to apply for that purpose to the district councils, and hope to be aided also by the clergy; I have, however, but little expectation of accomplishing much till the next harvest shall have created a demand for every kind of labour, and therefore fear that for several months the proportion of additional expenditure in rent, rations, superintendence, &c., caused by the importation of Irish single women will exceed 42*l.* per diem.

8. In the mean time the difficulties in my way are very serious; it is almost impossible to find accommodation, unless I build it, for the numbers who are thrown on the hands of the Government. I am told that additional accommodation is not to be hired, whilst for a small building, called the "German Hospital," the executive is obliged to pay a rent at the rate of 520*l.* per annum, although the accommodation it affords is so inadequate that I found 30 women sleeping in a room 16 feet square. Moreover, as the rainy season has now set in, the expense and difficulty of sending the immigrants into the country is immensely increased, whilst the demand for agricultural labour of every kind is less than at almost any other period of the year.

9. To this must be added, that even when some demand for the services of these women may arise, the colonists will probably avail themselves of their labour only for a season, leaving them to find their way back to the asylum for the destitute, where they must either be received, or be driven forth to a disreputable course of life. Here I discern a great deficiency in the present system; viz., the want of a sufficient labour-test to prevent the able-bodied, who, by greater exertion, might obtain or keep employment, from returning to subsist in idleness on the charity of the public. There can be no objection to insisting that those who can, shall aid by their labour to maintain themselves.

10. I also discern a second defect in the present system, which concentrates at Adelaide or the port, all the unemployed immigrants, depriving them thereby of a chance of obtaining employment from parties, who, perhaps, would gladly engage them but for the great expense and inconvenience of a journey from a distance to town. The principle of centralization has, I think, been carried too far,

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far, and in the case of the Irish immigrants the chance of getting employment for them has been thereby much diminished.

11. Both those defects are capable of being remedied, but the organization of proper superintendence and fit appliances for a labour-test, and also the transport of immigrants to distant depôts, and the cost of erecting and superintending such depôts must entail considerable expense. Her Majesty's Government, however, will probably agree with me, that expense must now be a secondary consideration. The difficulty has arisen, and must be grappled with at once, lest the present unfortunate immigration prove but the commencement of an incurable pauperism and demoralization imported into a young colony at enormous cost, under the direct superintendence and sanction of the British Government.

12. I cannot conclude without stating, in justice to the Emigration Commissioners, that however melancholy the position in which these unfortunate women are now placed, and however unsuitable they were from the first to this colony, my remarks apply only to about 780 persons out of a total immigration of 7,000 souls, including those expected daily to arrive in the five vessels above mentioned.

13. Nevertheless it cannot be denied, and my statement would be incomplete if I did not mention the fact, that the costly maintenance of such numerous ineligible candidates for employment, has greatly increased the predisposition of the colonists to deprive the Commissioners as soon as possible of the conduct of the emigration to South Australia.

14. It may be true, and I think is true, that mistakes have been committed somewhere and somehow, in the recent selection of Irish single women as emigrants to this colony, but I fear it would be vain to expect from private speculators, or interested agents, the same security and responsibility, or the same judgment and fertile resources, which have generally characterized the operations of the Commissioners in discharging the trust confided to them; a trust in which the labouring population of the mother country is almost as much interested as the settlers here. Therefore as the time approaches in which the colonists will have the entire disposal of the land fund, it is the more to be regretted that any apparently just ground of dissatisfaction should be afforded them, and your Lordship may therefore rely on my exerting myself all the more zealously to remove it.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell*,
Governor-in-Chief.

— No. 12. —

No. 12. Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell to the Right Hon. Lord J. Russell. 13 July 1855.

(No. 5.)

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell* to the Right Hon. Lord *John Russell*.

Government House, Adelaide, 13 July 1855.
(Received, 22 October 1855.)

My Lord,

(Answered, No. 4, 12 February 1866, page 144.)

* Page 108.

1. In reference to my despatch* of the 25th ultimo, relative to the excessive immigration of single Irish females, I have now the honour to enclose two copies of the report of the immigration agent at Port Adelaide, for the quarter ended the 30th June.

That report shows that there are now in the vicinity of Adelaide, either on shore or on board ship, 895 single women still unemployed, unsuitable to the present wants of the colony, who have been sent here contrary to the warnings given to the Emigration Commissioners, and who are likely for some months to be a source of very great expense to the colony.

2. It appears also that there are probably some hundreds more of this class of emigrants now on their way to South Australia, whilst it would also result from the

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the report of the immigration agent, amply corroborated as it is by my own personal investigations, that very great abuses exist as to the mode in which emigrants receive their embarkation orders. It is my belief, based on facts, which I shall take an early opportunity of authenticating, that at least one-fifth of the emigrants arriving here are persons who have requested to be sent to Melbourne or Sydney, but who have been transported thus far on their way to those places at the expense of this colony, and I further believe that this fact is within the knowledge of many agents employed by the Emigration Commissioners.

3. I cannot at present do justice to this subject, nor can I transmit all the necessary documents in proof of the view which I have been reluctantly compelled to adopt, of the mode in which the funds of this colony have recently been expended on emigration; I shall, however, do so by the next mail.

4. Being just returned from a tour of inspection, one object of which was to ascertain the best positions for establishing depôts for emigrants seeking employment in the interior of the province, I have only time now, before the closing of the mail, to draw the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the necessity for immediately stopping all emigration to this colony of single females, unless they be very highly qualified domestic servants, and very different from those recently sent here.

This colony can do very well without any addition to the number of single females, for the next 15 months, the only immigrants now wanted being skilled mechanics, miners and agricultural labourers, for which latter class (especially if able-bodied single men) there will soon be abundant employment.

5. If the Emigration Commissioners find any difficulty in carrying out these views, it appears to me that they should be instructed to discontinue for the present, sending emigrants here, unless they can send those for whose labour there is demand. It is much better to send only one emigrant ship per month with suitable emigrants, than that a greater number should be landed whose presence here, instead of being a guarantee for increased industry and production, becomes a source both of social and financial embarrassment, tending to lay the foundation of permanent pauperism in the colony.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell,*
Governor-in-Chief, South Australia.

Enclosure in No. 12.

Encl. in No. 12.

IMMIGRATION AGENT'S REPORT, for the Quarter ended 30 June, 1855.

Sir, Immigration Office, Port Adelaide, 6 July 1855.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, the Report of the Immigration Department for the quarter ended 30 June 1855.

During that period, 15 ships have arrived, bringing to the colony an aggregate number of 4,464 Government immigrants.

The casualties before final disembarkation were—births 70; deaths 62. Of these, 12 were of adults; two of children of seven and under 14 years; 23 of children one and under seven years; and 25 of infants.

The "Flora," from Liverpool, arrived on the 7th of April, bringing to the colony 310 souls. She was commanded by Mr. James Withers, and Mr. Herbert Wigan Swayne was the surgeon-superintendent, to both of whom credit is due for the good order and cleanliness in which the ship arrived; she was well lighted and ventilated. Seven births and seven deaths occurred at sea.

The "Lady Macdonald" arrived from Plymouth on the 7th of April with 282 immigrants. She was commanded by Mr. Henry Biles, and Mr. John Black was the surgeon-superintendent. Seven deaths and five births occurred during the voyage.

The immigrants by this vessel were well selected, and found ready employment. A great proportion were miners from Cornwall, and agricultural labourers from the southern and western counties of England; selected chiefly by Mr. Wilcocks, the agent for the Commissioners.

A few persons arrived by this ship aided by the funds of the Highland and Island Society of Scotland, and were selected by the Rev. Otto Trevelyan from among his own parishioners.

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All persons by this ship seem to have found ready employment, as all were finally disembarked several days before the lay days of the ship had expired.

The "Northern Light" arrived from Liverpool on the 7th of April, bringing to the colony 445 souls. She was commanded by Mr. Henry W. Plain, and Mr. John T. S. Jolly was the surgeon-superintendent, this being his fourth voyage. It gives me pleasure to say that he performed his duties very efficiently. The immigrants, with the exception of some of the single women, seemed to me a well-selected class of persons.

The "Hooghley" arrived from Plymouth on the 19th day of April, bringing to the colony 250 souls. She was commanded by Mr. Henry R. Rich, and Mr. Robert Robertson was the surgeon-superintendent. Fifteen deaths and seven births were the casualties at sea. This vessel also arrived in excellent order, and the immigrants were generally well-selected.

Diarrhœa and bronchitis prevailed at the early part of the voyage, caused by the severity of the weather in January.

The "Caroline" arrived from Southampton on the 24th of April, with 358 immigrants. There were six births and 13 deaths at sea. The ship was commanded by Mr. Ramsay Walker, and Mr. John M. Burke was the surgeon-superintendent. The general management on board was good, though it was found necessary to withhold the gratuity of the chief mate, as his conduct was far from satisfactory. The immigrants by this ship appeared to have been well-selected.

The "Mallard" arrived on the 25th of April, with 217 souls. Six deaths and two births were the casualties before final disembarkation. In consequence of several complaints having been made, the Immigration Board was summoned to investigate the circumstances.

It was, in their opinion, clearly proved that the surgeon had neglected his duty, both in the proper treatment of the sick, and in not enforcing the proper issue of provisions, especially to young children.

The mortality in emigrant ships takes place chiefly among very young children; and it being supposed that the kind of diet on shipboard had an important effect on their health, the Commissioners took great trouble in procuring the opinion of many eminent physicians on the kind of diet best suited for children between the ages of four months and two years old. In consequence of their advice, the following dietary was ordered and made a stipulation in the charter-party: "Children between four months and two years old are to be allowed three pints of water and a quarter of a pint of milk daily; also three ounces of preserved soup and one egg every alternate day; and twelve ounces of biscuit, four ounces of oatmeal, eight ounces of flour, four ounces of rice, and ten ounces of sugar, weekly."

It was proved to the satisfaction of the Immigration Board, that, for the first three weeks of the voyage, no issue of rations of any kind was made to children; that, after this, in consequence of complaints having been made, four ounces of rice, six ounces of flour, and eight ounces of sugar, with one gill of milk, were issued weekly to each child till within three weeks before arrival, when the proper quantities were given.

When there is neglect in the issue of food to adults, loud complaints soon attract attention to the grievance; children suffer and are silent. It may be that the parents are not aware of the provision which is made by the charter-party for the young; and if complaints are not made, it is assumed by those who neglect their duty that there is no grievance. Such is not the view the Immigration Board is disposed to take of the case. The issue of the proper stipulated provisions to children is regarded by the Board as most important, not only for the proper nourishment, but for the health and life of the children.

The Board regard the stipulation of the charter-party as so express, that they consider that the neglect of the master of the ship to issue these rations regularly vitiates the charter-party, and involves the forfeiture of the payment of freight. They consider that it is the duty of the surgeon-superintendent to take care that the stipulations of the charter-party are in all respects fulfilled; that the rations are issued regularly and in proper quantity; and it is the opinion of the Board that where this is not done, the surgeon-superintendent has neglected his duty.

Several complaints were made against the surgeon-superintendent for neglect of medical treatment. Such complaints are easily investigated. The printed instructions to surgeons-superintendent direct a distinct medical journal to be kept, in which is to be noted "the day on which each patient is entered for treatment, and on what day discharged—whether cured, transferred to other hands, or dead; stating also the nature of the disease, and the method of treatment." When a surgeon-superintendent neglects to keep such a journal, he not only sets at naught his instructions, but deprives himself of the only means to disprove a charge of neglect.

In this case, the surgeon-superintendent of the "Mallard" had not kept a medical journal as instructed. One man complained of personal violence used by the surgeon-superintendent and master of the ship. It appears that this man, being at the time a constable, had got into some personal altercation with the surgeon-superintendent, whom he threatened to report on arrival.

The surgeon and master, considering it necessary to "enforce discipline," ordered this man to be put in irons. The emigrants, who were then at dinner, hearing of this, rose in a body, and demanded his instant release; and he was accordingly set at liberty. This occurred about three weeks after sailing. No man complains of having been put in irons after this; but the "discipline," which it was found impossible to enforce upon the men, was more successfully tried upon the women.

One young woman was confined in the bath-room for three hours, in iron handcuffs; another was confined in this state for 36 hours. The Board state that not a shadow of

reason

reason existed for this exercise of arbitrary power; that these were cases of gross personal violence to women, and that the master who could order, and the surgeon-superintendent who could sanction such proceedings, were both totally unfitted to be ever again entrusted with the charge of immigrants.

The evidence given by the immigrants went to prove that the master of the ship was the active agent in these cases; that the surgeon was passive, but gave his sanction to the proceedings. The surgeon-superintendent takes upon himself the responsibility of having ordered the people to be put in irons.

The Immigration Board recommended that the usual certificate, that the immigrants had been well treated, and the charter-party fulfilled, should not be signed; that the gratuity of the master, being 2*s.* on each immigrant landed alive, should be forfeited; and that one-quarter of the gratuity to the surgeon-superintendent, being 2*s.* 6*d.* on each immigrant landed alive, should be withheld.

The certificate for return passage-money being thus forfeited, a further penalty is inflicted of forty pounds (40*l.*) The Board further recommended that the Commissioners should be requested to make a deduction from the payment of freight. His Excellency the Officer administering the Government was pleased to approve of the decision of the Board.

The "David Malcolm" arrived from Plymouth on the 30th April; she landed 239 souls. During the voyage, three births and one death are reported.

This is a teak-built ship, and well adapted for emigrants, but she was sent to sea insufficiently caulked; a good deal of leakage was the consequence, and the bedding of the people was often wet. The single women by this ship were of a class unsuitable for this colony. The discipline and general management of the people reflected the greatest credit on Dr. Mahony, the surgeon-superintendent, and on Mr. J. B. Lee, the master of the ship.

The "Europa" arrived from Liverpool on the 12th day of May, bringing to the colony 342 souls. Seven births and one death were the casualties at sea.

The ship itself was spacious and well ventilated. She was commanded by Mr. William Ridley, and Mr. William Rutter was the surgeon-superintendent, this being his third voyage in charge of emigrants. It appears that a mutiny amongst the sailors rendered it expedient for the master to touch at the Cape of Good Hope, when some of the ringleaders were punished. Complaints were made by some of the immigrants chiefly regarding an alleged short issue of water. This was investigated by the Immigration Board; but they came to the conclusion there was no foundation for the charge; and they were of opinion that the surgeon-superintendent had done his duty very efficiently under very trying circumstances. The young women by this ship were most unsuitable.

The "Nashwauk" was wrecked on the coast, near the mouth of the Onkaparinga, on the 13th of May. All the immigrants were safely landed and taken to the township of Noarlunga, from which place some were taken by the steamer "Melbourne" to Port Adelaide, and some were sent overland in drays to Adelaide.

An investigation was ordered by his Excellency the Officer administering the Government into the treatment of the people by the master and surgeon-superintendent of the ship. The Immigration Board sat for this purpose on the 2d June, when it appeared to the Board that there was no foundation for any complaints against the surgeon-superintendent during the voyage. The Board was adjourned to the following Tuesday on purpose to investigate the conduct of the master of the ship, but information having in the interval been received that he had died in Adelaide, the inquiry of course terminated; 167 young women arrived by this ship, and the greater number were a most ineligible class of persons.

The "Punjaub" arrived from Southampton on the 25th May, with 283 souls. There were five births and one death at sea. Mr. Henry Lannigan, the surgeon-superintendent appears to have performed his duty efficiently, and Mr. George Long, the master of the ship, gave him every facility and assistance.

The "John Banks" arrived on the 28th May, from Plymouth, bringing to the colony 292 souls. Six births and three deaths were the casualties at sea. The ship arrived in very good order. She was commanded by Mr. James Walker. Dr. Robert Thomas M'Cowan was the surgeon-superintendent.

The "Grand Trianon" arrived on the 9th of June, with 360 immigrants; 226 were young women, of whom far the greater number were of a class not likely to find ready employment. Four births and one death occurred at sea.

The "Grand Trianon" was commanded by Mr. Alfred Hayes, who gave hearty support and assistance to the surgeon-superintendent, Mr. Charles Kitching, in the management of the people. The immigrants expressed themselves most grateful for the treatment they had received.

The "Sea Park" arrived from Plymouth on the 24th June, with 279 souls. One birth and no deaths occurred during the voyage. There were 164 young women, by far the greater number of whom were of a class totally unfitted for the requirements of the colony. The vessel was commanded by Mr. Thomas Spedding, and Mr. W. H. Pearce was surgeon-superintendent, to both of whom credit is due for the discipline, good order and contentment which prevailed on board.

The "Velocity" arrived on the 24th of June, bringing to the colony 248 souls; of these, 117 were young women, few of whom are likely to find employment. The casualties at sea were two births and one death.

Mr. William Paul was the master, and Mr. Augustus Davis the surgeon-superintendent of the ship; the discipline and the general order of the people, and the clean state of the ship, reflect the greatest credit on those in charge.

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The ship itself is not particularly well-adapted for emigrants. The ports are too near the water-line, rendering them useless for ventilation.

The "Taymouth Castle" arrived from Southampton on the 24th June, but I regret to state that about 40 cases of small pox had occurred since leaving England. There were six cases on board when the ship arrived.

The vessel was put in quarantine, and all communication was forbidden; four of the water police were put on board with the sanction of Mr. Drew, the inspector of police.

Directions were given by Captain Douglas as to the anchors and length of cable, so that she might ride in safety.

Since that time the brig "Clarendon" has been hired, with the sanction of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, which, being moored at a proper distance from the "Taymouth Castle," will serve as a receiving ship. Those who were sick have been removed from the "Taymouth Castle" to this hulk, and should any new cases occur in the "Taymouth Castle," the patient will be immediately removed. A certain number of days having elapsed without any new case of sickness showing itself, arrangements will be made for allowing the ship to discharge, after such purification as may be thought necessary.

During the quarter just ended, it appears that 15 ships have arrived with 4,464 souls. Classified according to ages and sexes, they are as follows: Adults, males 1,170; females, 2,235. Children, males 473; females 586. The classification, according to the countries from which the emigrants were selected, is from England, 2,397; from Scotland, 277; from Ireland, 1,551; total, 4,225. To which have to be added the numbers arrived in the "David Malcolm," by which ship there was no classified return, 239; total 4,464. The single women who arrived during the quarter were, in gross numbers 1,446; of these 1,016 were sent from Ireland. The "David Malcolm," brought 52 young women without any return of the countries from which they were selected; but, judging from their names, they appear to have been almost all Irish.

In the report for the quarter ended 31st March 1854, and in every quarterly report since that time, it has been stated that the young women sent here were generally of a class quite unsuited to the wants of the colonists; accustomed to out-door farm work, they are quite unfit for domestic services

These statements were made in the hope that the system of sending that class of persons would be discontinued, but the evil instead of being arrested or diminished has been greatly increased till it has assumed an aspect seriously injurious in its probable effects to the social well-being of the colony.

At present the number of young women supported at the Government expense in Adelaide is	519
The number of young women on board ship at Port Adelaide, unemployed, is—	
"Constantine"	116
"Velocity"	103
"Sea Park"	157
	895

The mere statement of these figures is enough to show that the evil has attained such a magnitude as to call the attention of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief most urgently to its consideration.

In ordinary seasons and circumstances, the gradual and well-timed introduction of cheap hand labour in an agricultural country such as this, would be beneficial; but these young women have been sent in such numbers as to be, at any time, in excess of the numbers who could find employment; and in the present season, after the failure of last year's harvest, they have arrived at a time when the price of all kinds of food is so high that their labour would not be an equivalent for their actual consumption of provisions.

There appears, therefore, to be little prospect of finding employment for any large numbers of these young women, till the coming harvest, which promises to be most abundant, shall have increased the demand for farm labour, and at the same time have diminished the expense of the necessary articles of food. In the meantime we may expect fresh accessions to their numbers by every ship which arrives.

A complaint has been made by many single women, and by some married persons, that an injury has been inflicted upon them by sending them to this colony, having applied for a passage to other colonies where their friends reside. Many of them state that their embarkation orders were originally made out for the other colonies, New South Wales or Victoria, as the case might be; but, that, notwithstanding all this, they were shipped for Adelaide against their own wish; and some of them go the length of asserting that official persons, at the port of embarkation, assured them that they should be forwarded to their wished-for destination at the expense of this colony.

As we have nothing but the assertion of many of these persons before us, it is impossible to know, certainly, whether they are really true; but, in confirmation of these statements some of them have given me the addresses, in the other colonies, of their relatives to whom they wished to be sent. I must confess that I attach some credit to a statement so corroborated. It may be, that these persons were informed, that in the event of their refusing to go to South Australia, they should not be allowed to proceed to any other colony; and that they accepted the conditions offered, on the chance of being able soon to leave

leave this colony and to join their friends elsewhere. If this be so, it is, undoubtedly, a misapplication of our funds to send here persons who, in all probability, will leave this colony as soon as they can save money sufficient to pay their passage to another.

I have now to request the attention of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief to an evil which I fear is in existence, which I have for some time suspected, and which circumstances latterly, have induced me to believe.

It has been evident to me, on the inspection and voucher of immigrants, that many persons arrive here unsuited, physically and morally for this colony, the ages put opposite the names on the official paper being evidently very different to that of those who answer to the names. I am informed that imposition is frequently, practiced; that persons who are themselves unsuitable, and who would not be passed, procure some persons who do not intend to emigrate, to make application as if for themselves. To the applicants no objections are made, and the necessary certificates are easily procured. Embarkation orders are made out and transferred to those who would themselves have been rejected; arrangements are made by which the numbers of children are so managed that these families who have too many children, procure the assistance of those who have none, to get them passed as belonging to them, so that deception is easily practised. I regret to say that signatures to certificates of character can be procured, certificates of birth and of baptism can be easily forged, and are in some instances. In drawing the attention of his Excellency to this matter, I do not mean to infer that this system of fraud is practised to any great extent, but that it exists I have no doubt, and there can be no question that it ought, if possible, to be stopped.

In conclusion, I may state that the arrangements made and the care taken by the Commissioners in the selection of ships, in the general management and dietary of the people, and in numberless details for their personal comfort and health while at sea, cannot be excelled—every important suggestion is attended to without delay; and I have not the slightest doubt that the comfort of the emigrant is far greater than that of the steerage passenger by any private ship; but I am forced to the conviction that the system adopted at home for the selection of emigrants is decidedly faulty, and that had the land fund of this colony been in anything but a healthy condition, the consequences of a continuance of this year's emigration must have led to financial embarrassment.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Duncan*, M.D.,
Immigration Agent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

No. 1.—Abstract Quarterly Returns.

Immigrants.

Months composing the Quarter.	Number of Emigrant Vessels arrived.	Number of Deaths on Board or in Quarantine.	Number of Births on Board or in Quarantine.	Gross Number of Immigrants arrived.	Number of Adult Labourers.	Number of Agricultural Labourers.	Number of Shepherds.	Number of Domestic Servants.		Number of Mechanics engaged in erecting Buildings, or in obtaining or preparing Building Materials.	Number of Tradesmen making or selling Articles of Consumption.	Number of Tradespeople engaged in making Articles of Clothing.		Number of other Mechanics, &c., not included in the foregoing Columns.
								M.	F.			M.	F.	
April - -	7	53	43	2,099	111	97	5	-	298	- -	- -	-	-	429
May - - -	4	7	20	1,175	76	58	4	1	316	- -	- -	-	-	258
June - - -	4	2	7	1,190	101	57	1	-	476	- -	- -	-	-	160
Totals - -	15	62	70	4,464	288	212	10	1	1090	- -	- -	-	-	847

The births and deaths by the "Taymouth Castle," now in quarantine, are not included in this return.

By the "David Malcolm," no return.

[The latest return of prices and wages will be found at pp. 133, 134.]

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Answers to Queries.

1. What is the expense of erecting a country dwelling suitable to an agricultural labourer?—From 20 *l.* to 60 *l.*

2. What is the rent of a town lodging suitable to a mechanic and his family?—Eight to 10 *s.* a week.

3. What funds have been placed at your disposal during the past quarter for the relief of immigrants?—None.

4. Is there any fund in the colony for the relief of destitute poor?—A sum is voted annually, and put under the management of the Destitute Poor Board.

5. State the description of labour which is in request in the colony?—There is little demand for labour at present.

6. Would the rate of immigration of the last quarter satisfy the existing demand for labour?—It at present exceeds the demand.

7. Could it be safely increased with reference to the supples of food in the colony?—Yes.

8. State any particulars relative to immigration, and the demand for labour, which you think may be useful?—The excessive immigration of young women accustomed only to farm work ought immediately to cease. Steady active young men accustomed to ploughing, and other agricultural operations are likely to be more in request than married people.

H. Duncan, M.D., Immigration Agent.

No. 13.
Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell to Lord J. Russell. 31 August 1855.

— No. 13. —

(No. 20.)

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell* to the Right Honourable Lord *J. Russell.*

Government House, Adelaide, 31 August 1855.
(Received, 29 November 1855.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 4, 12 February 1856, page 144.)

In the second paragraph of my despatch* transmitting the immigration agent's report for the quarter ended 30th June 1855, I adverted to certain abuses which apparently pervade the system under which immigrants from Great Britain receive their embarkation orders. I stated that I thought nearly one-fifth of those arriving here had applied to be sent to other parts of Australia, but, nevertheless, had been shipped at the expense of this colony.

* Page 110.

2. I now enclose a nominal list† of all the Irish female immigrants supported by the Government in Adelaide on the 27th of last June. The list gives the name of the vessel by which each immigrant arrived, and also the name of the place to which she applied to be sent. The result shows, that out of 564 then rationed by Government, only 286, or little more than half the total number, had applied to be sent here.

† This list, being exceedingly voluminous, is not printed.

3. At the time when this return was made out, many of the girls were apprehensive that they would not be supported by this Government if it was proved that they had originally applied to be sent to another colony; I am therefore inclined to think that the number of those who did so apply is not exaggerated in the enclosed return.

4. That return has been kept back till now, in consequence of my own anxiety to ascertain personally the correctness of the details which it gives. I took much personal trouble in the matter, and am able to state that, having cross-examined many of the girls, I consider the return to be as truthfully and accurately compiled as was possible, with the means at the disposal of the Executive here.

5. I might have furnished numerous instances in which immigrants stated that, on application for passages to Melbourne and Sydney, they had been informed by the agents of the Immigration Commissioners, they could reach those colonies from Adelaide, and had therefore been induced to come here. Their

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Their assertions were in a great measure corroborated by the production of letters sent to them subsequently by their Sydney and Melbourne friends enclosing money to enable them to continue their voyage.

6. It appears to me that agents who forward immigrants to this colony under such circumstances, and thereby cause an expenditure of the colonial funds in the transport elsewhere of labour paid for by South Australia, commit a very great breach of trust. Notwithstanding therefore the difficulty thrown in my way by distance, and the dispersion of those best able to prove such cases, I should have felt it a duty to transmit all available evidence to your Lordship were it not that my personal testimony to their frequency will probably be sufficient to induce the Commissioners to take the necessary steps for preventing their recurrence. The enclosed return must, however, be regarded as illustrating the defects of the system, and not as applicable to those individuals only whose names it gives.

7. I take this opportunity of transmitting a correspondence arising from the fact disclosed by the surgeon-superintendent of the "Velocity," of several of the female immigrants having arrived here under assumed names. It is right that the Commissioners should be made aware of the circumstance, and also of the other statements of the surgeon, as to shipment of known loose characters, and of one female direct from a penitentiary.

Enclosures 1, 2, 3, and 4.

8. The numbers of immigrants now maintained by Government, the great difficulties experienced in dealing with an immigration so unsuited in many respects to our present wants, the measures adopted by Government, the expenses incurred, and the prospects of the immigrants being hereafter usefully absorbed in the general population, are topics which will more conveniently form the subject of a separate despatch.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 13.

Encl. 1, No. 13.

Sir, Port Adelaide, 13 July 1855.

I TAKE the liberty of enclosing to your Excellency a letter I have received from the surgeon-superintendent of the "Velocity."

He does not wish his name to be made public, as he thinks the consequences would be prejudicial against him, if it were known to them that he furnished me with this information.

I am, &c.
To his Excellency Sir R. G. MacDonnell, C.B. (signed) *H. Duncan.*

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 1, in No. 13.

Dr. Duncan, Port Adelaide, 13 July 1855.

THE following names are those of emigrants who embarked in the 'Velocity," at Plymouth, under assumed names; viz.

Assumed Names.	Real Names.
Margaret Blake	Casey.
Sarah Ryan	Moore.
Bridget Morrisey	Flannagan.
Mary Halloran	Hanrahan.
Margaret Condon	Hanrahan.
Ellen Quirk	Ryan.
Catherine Jaines	"
Margaret Jaines	"
Honora Enrigh	"
Margaret Hoolaban	Donovan.
Bridget Hynes	Moylan.
Mary Cunningham	Griffin.
Jane Connor	McDonald.
John Emerson	Michael Jones.
Letitia Emerson	Fanny Jones.

Anne

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Anne Alvosa was sent on board direct from a penitentiary. I was not made aware of the fact by the authorities at Plymouth (which I consider ought to have been the case). It came out during the voyage; her conduct was bad. There were three other girls who had been loose characters at home, they behaved themselves correctly during the passage, so I would not wish to name them.

I believe my ship to be a fair average sample of those sent out, and that the emigrants in other ships embark in assumed names, &c., in about the same proportion. My experience in a former vessel ("Isle of Thanet"), brings me to this conclusion; and from conversations I have held with the people on the subject, it seems to me to be a growing evil.

The case of "Ellen Quirk," alias Ryan, is perhaps a specimen of a class. The girl was servant at a farm, where she had intercourse with one of the sons; she becoming pregnant, he procured an embarkation order for her in another name, and herself and child are now a burthen to the colony.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Augustus E. Davies,*
late Surgeon-superintendent, "Velocity."

To H. Duncan, Esq., M. D.,
Emigration Agent.

Encl. 2, in No. 13.

Enclosure 2, in No. 13.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Adelaide,
16 July 1855.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour by directions of the Governor-in-Chief, to inform you, that his Excellency has under consideration your letter of the 13th instant, enclosing a communication from Dr. Davies, late surgeon-superintendent of the "Velocity," giving a list of names fraudulently assumed by emigrants embarking in that vessel; and I am directed to intimate to you, in reply, that his Excellency considers the information it contains, as being most important. If the statement advanced by Dr. Davies be correct, Her Majesty's Government will no doubt feel indebted to that gentleman, for disclosing the fraud practised by disqualified immigrants, in assuming false names, and so obtaining embarkation orders.

His Excellency directs me to observe, that no parties ought to be so interested in obtaining information on this subject as the Emigration Commissioners in England, who no doubt have a deep and conscientious sense of the very responsible duties devolved on them, and who are accountable for all mismanagement of the funds placed at their disposal. His Excellency cannot therefore regard a communication such as that made by Dr. Davies, in the light of a privileged communication, the author of which should not be known. On the contrary he feels it his duty to report the matter to the Secretary of State, and it therefore becomes Dr. Davies' duty to state what further proofs he can adduce in support of the allegations made in his letter to you of the 13th instant. It is proper that his Excellency should investigate the facts, in justice to the Emigration Commissioners; and I am directed to say, that he is very much mistaken if Her Majesty's Government will allow the evidence of Dr. Davies, if proved to be correct, to work to his prejudice.

You are, therefore, requested to call upon Dr. Davies, to state, in what manner, if any, his Excellency can assist him, by affording him a fair opportunity of adducing evidence corroborative of his assertions.

It appears to his Excellency that the Immigration Board ought to form a court of inquiry into the matter, unless undue publicity may be supposed to tend to the suppression of available evidence on the part of the immigrants, who may apprehend some punishment for the frauds committed. In any case, however, you are requested to require Dr. Davies to state the course he wishes to pursue in proving his allegations.

I have, &c.
(signed) *B. T. Finniss,*
Colonial Secretary.

To the Immigration Agent.

Encl. 3 in No. 13.

Enclosure 3, in No. 13.

Immigration Office, Port Adelaide,
17 July 1855.

Sir

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (No. 1,371), dated July 16th, calling upon me, by the direction of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, to obtain from Dr. Davies, the surgeon-superintendent of the "Velocity," further proofs in support of the allegations made, in his letter to me, of the 13th instant.

In reply to your letter, I regret to state that Dr. Davies sailed from this to Melbourne, en route to England, on board the steamer "Havilah," on Friday last, so that I am precluded from obtaining the information his Excellency desires, however, I think Mr. Moorehouse could

could obtain further evidence from among the young women in the depôt, assisted by the matron from the ship. Allow me to suggest that Mr. Moorehouse be advised to conduct his investigations in such a way, as not to arouse the fears of the young women that proceedings may be taken against them hereafter, for fraudulent representations to the Commissioners, otherwise he might find it impossible to elicit the information desired.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Duncan*, M.D.,
Immigration Agent.

To the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 4, in No. 13.

Encl. 4, in No. 13.

I RECEIVED these papers on the 24th July, and four of the parties charged had hired and gone into the interior, and I could not for some weeks, communicate with them; the matron reported the following to be the names, ship "Velocity."

Assumed Names.	Real Names.
Margaret Blake	Margaret Casey.
Sarah Ryan	Sarah Moore.
Bridget Morrisy	Bridget Flannigan.
Mary Halloran	Mary Hanrahan.
Margaret Conden	Ellen Hanrahan.
Ellen Quick	Mary Ryan.
Catharine Gaines	Mary Brown.
Honora Enrigh	Honora Donnahoe.
Margaret Hoolahan	Ellen Donavan.
Bridget Hynes	Bridget Moylan.
Mary Cunningham	Mary Griffin.
Jane Connor	Isabella M'Donally.

The following cases from other vessels, I may at the same time report:

Ex "Confiance."

Assumed Names.	Real Names.
Mary Morris	Susan Garland.
Hannah O'Brien	Betsey Clark.
Bridget O'Brien	Mary Riley.

Ex "Europa."

Susan M'Allans	Jane Wylie.
Mary M'Cranie	Mary Tyler.
Mary Cairne	Bridget Connor.

Ex "Sea Lark."

Margaret Cooney	Ann O'Brien.

Ex "John Banks."

Ellen Grime	Ellen Cohery.
Mary Faisley	Mary Cohen.
Jane M'Henry	Jane Cohen.

I have carefully inquired into the reasons which led these girls to assume fictitious names. The following are assigned: Young females in Ireland sometimes apply for passages out to Australia, and on receiving their embarkation orders, their parents refuse to let them go. Others again have friends whose interest is sufficient to procure free passages. The girls apply, and if successful, sell their orders for a premium of 5 *s.*

24 August 1855. (signed) *M. Moorehouse*, Superintendent.

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— No. 14. —

No. 14.
Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell to Lord J. Russell 24 Sept. 1855.

(No. 25.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell*, to the Right Honourable Lord *J. Russell*.

Government House, Adelaide, 24 Sept. 1855.
(Received, 29 December 1855.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 4, 12 Feb. 1856, page 144.)

1. IN accordance with the intimation conveyed in my despatch of the 31st August,* I proceed to give, as briefly as I can, a summary of the difficulties caused by the inopportune and excessive influx of Irish immigrants into this colony within the last few months, and of the measures adopted by the Executive to meet those difficulties.

* Page 116.

2. It will simplify the consideration of the subject, if I commence by giving the number of immigrants sent here by the Land and Emigration Commissioners during the current year to the 1st instant. The enclosed return of the immigration agent gives the total number as 8,600, of whom 2,800 were single women, whilst no less than 2,047 of those single women were from Ireland, and of a class, generally speaking, unsuited to the wants of the colony. The total of females, including children, appears to have been 5,324, being an excess of 2,048 over males.

Enclosure No. 1, 1 Sept. 1855.

3. Even in ordinary years, and under the most favourable circumstances, serious difficulty would have been experienced in settling 8,600 new arrivals in eight months, amounting to one-tenth of the previous population of the colony. In a year of high prices and scarcity, caused by the partial failure of the harvest of 1854, this influx of immigrants was therefore certain to occasion very great embarrassment and heavy expense, which might, and I think ought to have been foreseen.

4. In my despatch, No. 2,* of the 25th of June, I detailed some of those embarrassments, but confess that the continued stream of immigration has since occasioned difficulties and expenses of a magnitude much beyond what at that date I anticipated. I then supposed that the additional number of females expected might make the total dependent on Government aid finally amount to 785, and that altogether they would probably cause an expenditure for several months of 42 *l.* per diem.

* Page 108.

5. I now enclose a return, giving, amongst other details, according to a form prepared by myself, and which is filled up daily, the number of immigrants on the 31st ultimo. The total number of Irish adult female immigrants supported by the Government at that date, either on shipboard or on land, appears to have been 1,111, of whom I have ascertained that nearly 1,100 were single women.

Enclosure No. 2, 31 August 1855.

6. The census returns of last March give the total population (exclusive of natives and military) of this colony as 85,821, of whom 85,189 have been classified, and ascertained to consist of 43,720 males, and 41,469 females. There is good reason, however, for supposing that the emigration of males since then in search of employment, and the great influx of females by immigration, has more than equalized those numbers.

7. The same returns give 4,126 as the number of domestic servants for the above population, and of those nearly 4,000 are supposed to be females, thus obviously increasing the difficulty of obtaining situations for even respectable and well-trained female servants. One would, therefore, be inclined to suppose, under such circumstances, that in sending here in the first eight months of the current year 2,800 single women, three-fourths of whom were described as domestic servants, and 2,047 of whom were from Ireland, the majority being totally unfitted for domestic service, the Land and Emigration Commissioners were acting on some special information supplied by the resident immigration agent here, or some instructions issued by the colonial authorities.

8. I cannot

8. I cannot, however, find that such has been the case; on the contrary, in his reports for the March and June quarters of 1854, the immigration agent here pointed out that the single women then sent to this province as domestic servants were better fitted for farm work, and were not of the class required, viz. persons accustomed to respectable domestic service. In his report on the June quarter of last year, he specially warned the Commissioners that there would be the greatest difficulty in finding employment for the class of young women who were sent here.

9. As the last of those reports must have reached the Commissioners at latest some time in last December, and as all the reports since sent to them convey the same information, their persistence in forcing on the colony at a vast expense such a crowd of unsuitable immigrants, seems without a parallel in colonial history, for even supposing it beyond their power to have sent a better class of female immigrants, it is not apparent why they need have sent them in such numbers, if at all. Nevertheless, they actually sent in the first quarter of the current year 514, a number as great, within six, as the total number sent in the whole previous year; and though the remonstrances of the immigration agent have been renewed every quarter, they sent in the following quarter more than 1,000 single women, and have since been keeping up a constantly-increasing supply.

10. I am happy to say that I find no record of South Australia having declined to assist in settling its fair proportion of the distressed labouring classes in the mother country, even though unlikely to be soon of any direct advantage to the colony. On the contrary, I find that on the 17th August 1853 the Legislature of this colony, in compliance with the representation contained in the letter of the 31st August 1852, addressed to Sir John Pakington by the Land and Emigration Commissioners, agreed to receive a number of Irish female orphans on certain conditions, four in number, of which only the second has been observed, relating to their receiving adequate protection during the voyage from Europe.

Enclosure in Sir John Pakington's despatch, No. 61, 13 Sept. 1852. Vide Papers presented 8 April 1853, page 72.

11. That part of the first condition, requiring that they should be fitted to supply the wants of the colonists as domestic servants, has been unfulfilled. Perhaps it would have been difficult to have sent from workhouses females possessing all the required qualifications. This, however, cannot be asserted of the other two conditions laid down by the Legislature, the fulfilment of which rested entirely and solely with the Commissioners, viz., that a limited number only should be sent out in each vessel, and that the regulation should apply to all parts of the United Kingdom, and that no encouragement should be given to the emigration from Ireland, which was not also afforded to the natives of England and Scotland.

Transmitted in Sir H. Young's despatch, No. 70, Oct. 1853. Vide House of Commons Paper, No. 436, Session 1854, Part 2, page 21.

12. So little regard has been paid to the last two conditions, that, as already observed, in the first eight months of this year 2,047 Irish out of a total of 2,800 adult single females, have been landed on these shores, being nearly treble the number of English and Scotch together, whilst more than 200—I believe even more than 220—have been landed from one vessel, thus precluding the possibility of getting the cargo of one vessel absorbed in the general population before the arrival of another.

Supra, par. 2.

13. The result of this extraordinary immigration having proved most distressing and costly, I have thought it right to show that the fault does not rest with the Legislature of the province, or with the immigration agent here, whose reports have been sufficiently accurate. I may add that I find no record of any advice or instructions from my predecessor which could justify such a sudden and unsuitable addition to the population of this colony. The responsibility appears to rest wholly with the Land and Emigration Commissioners, and they alone can adequately explain their policy.

14. I trust, however, that no effort has been spared by the Executive here to meet the emergency. I shall briefly recapitulate what has been done. I and my Council were soon sensible that no adequate accommodation could be hired for the fast-increasing numbers poured into the colony, and we resolved to scatter them as much as possible over the province, with a view to hastening

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their absorption in the general population. We also at once saw the necessity of building house accommodation for those unavoidably left on hand in town.

15. For the purpose of dispersing them, I resolved to form depôts, under charge of matrons selected for the purpose, in those parts of the colony where the girls had most chance of finding employment. With a view to inducing as many as possible to assist the Government in procuring them employment, I drew up and caused to be sent the enclosed circulars to all the chairmen of district councils, stipendiary and other magistrates, of the colony, requesting certain local information, and inviting suggestions. I have attached to those circulars an analysis of the replies received, which may prove interesting, as exhibiting the great diversity of suggestions sent to me, and the light in which the community regarded the unprecedented influx of immigrants.

Enclosure No. 3.

16. I enclose a return showing the number of depôts established, viz., nine, and the number of girls sent to them since the 1st July. All these arrangements entailing rent, building, furniture, and transport, together with rations, have proved very expensive; but expense has now become a secondary consideration in comparison with the evils attending the concentration in town of many hundreds of uneducated single women condemned to hopeless inactivity. It appeared our duty to avoid those evils by all means in our power. In addition to the plan of country depôts, notice was given that respectable parties near the mail routes could, on application, have servants sent to them from the central depôt at the expense of Government. The enclosed return shows that to this date 381 have been thus forwarded to country depôts, and 55 to private individuals, making a total removed from town of 436. On the other hand, 77 have returned from service in the rural districts, the greater number of them being actually displaced by the girls sent to the country, and compelled by the rules of the depôt to accept comparatively low wages. Thus I find, that as 119 remain this day in the country depôts, and as 77 have returned from rural districts to the central depôt, only 240 out of the 436 sent to the country can be regarded as disposed of hitherto by this process.

Enclosure No. 4.

Enclosure No. 5.

Enclosure No. 6.

17. Upwards of 3,000 *l.* have nevertheless been expended on transport, rent, and sundries to establish those rural depôts; and more than 6,000 *l.* in enlarging the central depôt in town, where, nevertheless, the accommodation is at present so very limited, that I have given orders for the construction of a large additional shed, 70 feet by 40, in compliance with the urgent representation of the colonial surgeon and superintendent of the depôt. I enclose a communication from the latter, from which your Lordship will perceive that he calculates by packing the inmates all over the floors of the existing rooms, he can accommodate 90 in each room, allowing only 10 superficial square feet to each adult. As even this will leave me without space for the additional numbers whom we must expect, I cannot think such crowding justifiable or safe in a sanatory point of view, especially as no allowance is made for the space occupied by boxes, furniture, and clothes.

Enclosure No. 7, 21 Sept. 1855.

18. Thus I find myself absolutely compelled to incur further building expenses; equally necessary, perhaps, for the purpose of maintaining proper discipline, and eventually of enabling me to classify the inmates of the depôt more effectively, and occupy them with some industrial employment, which in the present crowded state of the half-finished buildings has hitherto been impossible.

19. Not merely, however, has the expense of lodging and rationing these large numbers been thrown on the colony; but in consequence of the long period elapsed since their arrival, a necessity has arisen for renewing the clothing of a great number. Notwithstanding every effort on the part of Mr. Moorehouse, the superintendent, of whose laborious and zealous discharge of his very unpleasant and complicated duties I cannot speak too highly, the mere fact that immigrants are clothed and fed at the public expense is creating here a disposition to look to the Government for that aid, which in a young colony each individual ought to owe chiefly to his or her own exertions. I have, therefore, just appointed a Board of four gentlemen, including the immigration agent, who are to sit once a week, and oftener if necessary, to decide on the best mode of excluding all who can find a reputable maintenance elsewhere, and

and of regulating the distribution and quality of rations and clothing, &c. I shall thus be relieved of the necessity of settling many hundred questions hitherto reserved for my decision, to the great waste of my time and detriment of the public business.

20. It must be remembered, that the expenses and trouble above detailed arise only from one portion of the recent immigration to this colony. Unusual expense has also attended the settlement of the male immigrants. Of those, the English were in the aggregate more numerous than all the rest; yet both they and the Scotch have almost all found employment, whilst large numbers of the Irish labourers were long, and still are, thrown on the Government for assistance. In dealing with them, I have endeavoured to follow two principles; one, that it was better to find some employment for them than none, even though such employment were to entail on the Government a greater expense than the mere cost of rations issued to them without assigning them any task. The second principle I have acted on has been allowing labourers so employed a much lower scale of wages than that ruling in the general labour market; and accordingly, having opened a quarry and employed a number of labourers, their wages have been gradually reduced till they now range between 3 *s.* and 4 *s* 6*d.* per diem, the ordinary rate of wages three months back having been from 8 *s.* to 10 *s.*

21. I may add, that 50 families have probably been provided for by an arrangement with two district councils, who have found employment for the heads of those families on condition that the Government should pay a certain portion of their wages for several successive weeks. Having transported those families with their luggage, to a distance in the country, they are gradually becoming absorbed in the general population.

22. For those in whose families there has been illness, or whom it was not advisable for any other reason to send to a distance, employment has been found on the streets and squares in town. The single men are now sent to the quarries, or have work on the Gawler Town Railway, the Government providing them with tents. Altogether about 400 males, whether heads of families or single men, are still a direct source of expense to the Government, either as receiving rations, or wages for work, which otherwise would not have been undertaken, and which is not remunerative. I have not, as yet, however, any returns of the total expense sufficiently complete to justify me in forwarding them. I may, nevertheless, state that the Auditor-general and myself having gone into the case as narrowly as the means at our disposal allowed, have come to the conclusion, that instead of an expense of less than 300 *l.* incurred for immigrants after disembarkation, as was the case last year, and as provided for in the estimates of this year, the whole expense in 1855 will this year range between 20,000 *l.* and 25,000 *l.*

23. A grave question therefore arises as to the fund which should bear this large and unusual expense. I think there can scarcely be a doubt that it ought to fall on the immigration moiety of the land fund. It is only consistent with common sense to charge the fund designed to carry a labourer from England to this country with all the expense attending his transport from England, up to the date of his labour being disposed of in the open labour market here. It cannot possibly matter whether, if in enabling him to do his first day's work here, a certain total expense has been incurred, a part of it is for rations eaten on board a ship, or another part for rations eaten in a depôt on shore. They are all expenses equally incurred for the same object; viz. the rendering of the imported labourer's services available to the general community.

24. Whilst therefore requesting your Lordship's authority to charge the immigration moiety of the land fund with all expense of the nature alluded to, I may also suggest, that if they are not to be borne by that fund, there is no other fund which can defray them; as it will be my duty to take some other opportunity of representing that the other moiety of the land fund is unequal to defraying the charges on it already sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, whilst the whole of the ordinary revenue has been long since allocated by competent legislative authority to other purposes.

 25. Under

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

25. Under these circumstances, anticipating your Lordship's decision to be in favour of charging the above unforseen expenses, whatever may be their amount, to the immigration moiety of the land fund for the current year, I have directed the accounts to be so kept at once, to prevent confusion hereafter. I shall, however, be glad to receive your Lordship's distinct instructions on the subject, and shall not fail to transmit early intelligence of the various amounts, when ascertained, unavoidably expended as above.

26. In conclusion, I presume I need scarcely impress on your Lordship the necessity of issuing such instructions as may entirely stop all further immigration, for the present, to this country of unprotected Irish single females. I would also suggest, that as the other Irish immigrants will not in all probability be absorbed for a long time, it would be advisable to send none but English and Scotch immigrants till a more favourable opening be presented of settling some additional Irish. If any of the latter are sent, they should be single men, to counterbalance the great number of single Irish females.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell,*
Governor.

Enclosure No. 8, 25 Sept. 1855.

P.S.—I have just received the enclosed Return from the immigration agent, drawn up in accordance with instructions from myself, and as it gives a better and more detailed account of the immigration into this colony during the current year, than any of the other returns sent herewith, I forward it, for your Lordship's information.

R. G. M. D.

25 September 1855.

Encl. 1, in No. 14.

Enclosure 1, in No. 14.

CLASSIFIED LIST of Immigrants arrived at Port Adelaide from 1 January to 1 September 1855.

Adults	Males	2,374	
	Females	4,281	
			6,655
Children	Males	902	
	Females	1,043	
			1,945
GRAND TOTAL			8,600

So far as returns specify, there were selected,—

From England	4,088	
From Scotland	522	
From Ireland	3,425	
		8,035
There arrived by the "Magdalena" and "David Malcolm," bringing no return of countries		565
TOTAL		8,600

The single women who arrived were in total number 2,800, of whom 2,047 were from Ireland.

(signed) *H. Duncan,* M. D., Immigration Agent.

Enclosure 2, in No. 14.

RETURN of Unemployed Immigrants, Destitute Poor, and Sick Supported by Government on Friday, 31st day of August 1855.

	MALES.									FEMALES.									TOTALS.					
	England.		Ireland.		Scotland.		Other Countries.			England.		Ireland.		Scotland.		Other Countries.								
IMMIGRANTS:	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	TOTAL.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	TOTAL.	England.	Ireland.	Scotland.	Other Countries.	GRAND TOTAL.	REMARKS.
Immigrants maintained on ship-board under terms of charter-party, as per last return - -	33	25	103	12	6	5	–	–	184	54	25	212	18	14	5	–	–	328	137	345	30	–	512	Married Couples. Taymouth Castle - 34 32
Immigrants, able-bodied, not yet employed, rationed by Government at Adelaide - - -	49	21	52	10	–	–	–	–	132	23	19	699	12	–	–	–	–	753	112	773	–	–	885	Lismoyne - - 170 Admiral Boxer - 308 — 512
Ditto, ditto, returned from employment - - - - - -	20	5	18	4	–	–	–	–	47	39	12	53	3	–	–	–	–	107	76	78	–	–	154	1,186
Immigrants rationed at Country Stations—probable number -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	147	–	–	–	–	–	147	–	147	–	–	147	
* DESTITUTE POOR:																								
Able-bodied:								Half-caste.																
In-door - - - -	–	18	–	5	–	1	–	1	25	6	18	2	–	1	3	1	1	32	42	7	5	3	57	
Out-door - - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Infirm:																								996
In-door - - - -	19	–	1	–	3	–	5	–	28	24	–	36	–	1	–	–	–	61	43	37	4	5	89	
Out-door - - -	44	99	21	85	3	11	2	4	269	231	88	94	96	41	24	5	2	581	462	296	79	13	850	
SICK:																								
In Colonial Hospital - - -	26	2	6	–	2	–	2	–	38	9	–	16	–	1	–	–	–	26	37	22	3	2	64	
In Lunatic Asylum - - -	13	–	1	–	1	–	3	–	18	6	–	7	–	1	–	–	–	14	19	8	2	3	32	124
Elsewhere; Lunatics in Gaol -	15	–	2	–	2	–	1	–	20	3	–	3	–	1	–	1	–	8	18	5	3	2	28	
TOTALS - - -	219	170	204	116	17	17	13	5	761	395	162	1,269	129	60	32	7	3	2,057	946	1,718	126	28	2,818	

* No immigrant is to be returned amongst the destitute poor unless such immigrant shall have twice obtained employment and have sought relief a second time.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Encl. 3, in No. 14.

Enclosure 3, in No. 14.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Adelaide,
27 June 1855.

Sir,

I AM commanded by his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief to enclose for your information, copy of a circular sent by his Excellency's order to the chairmen of the several district councils in this province; and I am desired to request that you will furnish me, at your earliest convenience, with a statement of your own views as to the practicability of carrying out the objects contemplated in the enclosed circular. His Excellency is prepared to receive, with attention, any suggestions that you may offer; but, in the meantime, hopes you will render every assistance in your power to the district councils in seeking for the information called for by the enclosed circular, and in effecting the objects which his Excellency thereby notifies his anxiety to accomplish.

I am further directed to state, that as the public interest is very much involved in the successful issue of the efforts now being made to obtain employment for the large body of Irish female immigrants now in the colony, his Excellency is prepared to attach a proportionate value to any exertions you may individually make in promoting that object.

I have, &c.

To Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Adelaide,
27 June 1855.

Sir,

I AM desired by his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, to state, for the information of yourself and the district council of
that there are at present in the colony several hundreds of single females, immigrants from Ireland, about the disposal of whom some difficulty is experienced, as neither at Adelaide, nor in its immediate neighbourhood, is there at present any further demand for that class of immigrants.

2. Many of those females are highly respectable, and well qualified as in-door domestic servants; but the majority of them have not yet acquired experience sufficient to render them immediately useful in that capacity. They are, however, strong, healthy, and willing to be employed as farm servants, having, most of them, already served in that capacity.

3. It appears to his Excellency, that in the towns and agricultural districts of the colony, there must be employment for many hundreds of industrious females of the class last described; and that their services might be immediately and usefully rendered available, if the parties willing to engage them could do so without the expense and inconvenience of a journey to Adelaide.

4. It is, therefore, the object of his Excellency to place those who are willing to give employment, and those who are ready to be employed, in closer proximity to one another, that both parties may conveniently enter into arrangements mutually beneficial.

5. It is, therefore, intended to classify the immigrants in question, as far as practicable, dividing them into two classes; first, domestic servants; and secondly, farm labourers. His Excellency has also determined that, where the circumstances may admit of his doing so, he will endeavour to find the means of transport for the immigrants in question to those places where there may appear to be a sufficient demand for their services; whilst he, also, would not object to many of those females being engaged at first without any promise of pecuniary remuneration; suitable board, lodging, and clothing being for the present considered an equivalent for their services. It would, however, be for the district council of
to say how long such temporary arrangement ought to be expected to last, in fairness to both parties.

6. I am, therefore, instructed to request that you, and the district council of
will, as soon as possible, take into your consideration, and forward to me replies to the following questions, which involve the most material points to be determined in the first instance:

1st. What demand exists in the district of
for female domestics, or female farm servants, of the class above indicated?

2d. Would any, and what, advantages attend the establishment of a depôt for female immigrants, and for what number of such immigrants in the district of
or its neighbourhood; those immigrants being boarded and lodged in such depôt whilst waiting employment?

3d. Supposing the establishment of such depôt expedient, what facilities does the district of
afford for its erection and maintenance, and what would be the probable cost per diem of rationing each female emigrant?

4th. Are

4th. Are there any, and what, buildings to be hired in the said district suitable to the purposes of such depôt, and if so, at what rate? and

5th. Are there any, and what parties in the said district willing to contract for the maintenance in the said depôt of the females who might be sent there?

7. On receiving replies to the foregoing questions, his Excellency will be prepared, when practicable, to convey to the district council of as many female immigrants as they may be of opinion are likely to find employment there; and he entirely relies on the council using a sound and careful discretion in recommending none but suitable parties as employers of female labour.

8. I am further desired to state that his Excellency considers the difficulty occasioned by the arrival of so many female immigrants at this unseasonable period of the year to be precisely that species of difficulty in which the executive may fairly expect to be aided by the local experience and public spirit of the respective district councils. You will, however, observe that the value of such assistance will be greatly enhanced by its being afforded speedily; and, therefore, his Excellency requests that the information asked for above may be furnished by the first possible opportunity.

I have, &c.

Colonial Secretary.

To the Chairman of the District Council of

Female Labour.

Classification of Correspondence (in answer to Circular) relative to

Rural Depôts, recommending establishment of—

Number of Letters.

1 From the Roman-catholic Bishop.
20 „ „ Magistrates.
14 „ Chairman of District Councils.

Rural Depôts, not recommending establishment of—

10 From Magistrates.
8 „ Chairman of District Councils.

Various Suggestions from Magistrates and others.

4 Reshipment to England.
3 Recommending that steps should be taken to put a stop to female immigration.
3 Offer of Government of bounty for employment of.
1 Boarding out females in private families.
1 Recommending that the girls should be hired out for six months, and their wages paid by Government.
1 Recommending the appointment of a colonial immigration agent in England.
1 That the expenses paid by the colony for the maintenance of these females be refunded by the Emigration Commissioners.
1 That a better selection of female immigrants should be made in England.
1 Classification of female immigrants.
1 Establishment of washouse and laundry in Adelaide.
1 Cultivation of mulberry and raising of silkworms.
1 Employment in making boots, gloves, &c.
1 „ „ woollen manufactures.
1 „ as shepherdesses.
1 „ at Government farm, and training of, for farm servants.
1 Stating a few may find employment as farm servants in the hundred of North Rhine, but their habits are not suited for domestic servants.
2 Cannot assist the Government.
1 Recommending that the police should be employed in calling upon the settlers to ascertain what servants they require.
1 Recommending the establishment of a registry office at Kapunda instead of a depôt.
1 „ a few to be sent to the district of Port Lincoln.
5 Situations can be found for a few.
9 Offer of buildings for depôts.

Geo. W. D. Beresford,
Private Secretary.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Encl. 4, in No. 14.

Enclosure 4, in No. 14.

LIST of Country Depôts.

LOCALITY.	Distance from Adelaide in Miles.	Number sent.	Number Hired.	Probable Number remaining.
Guichen Bay - - -	160	80		
Mount Gambier - - -	240	Supplied from Guichen Bay.	50	30
Penola - - - -	180			
Clare - - - - -	80	69	62	7
Gawler Town - - -	27	77	57	20
Encounter Bay - - -	60	40	23	17
Mount Barker - - -	25	39	21	18
Yankalilla - - - -	60	17	17	—
Willunga - - - -	27	59	32	27
		381	262	119

(signed) *M. Moorehouse,*
Comptroller.

24 September 1855.

Encl. 5, in No. 14.

Enclosure 5, in No. 14.

Return of Irish Female Immigrants who have left Situations and been Re-admitted into the Depôt, Adelaide, between the 1st July and 24th September 1855.		Number of Irish Female Immigrants who have left the Depôts at Adelaide from 1st July to 24th September 1854.	
Returned from service in country districts, between 1st July and 24th September - - - -	77	Forwarded to country depôts - -	381
		„ private individuals -	55
Returned from service in Adelaide and suburban districts - - -	163	Number taken by parties from the depôt in town (many taken away by friends) - - - - -	374
	240		810

(signed) *M. Moorehouse,*
Comptroller.

24 September 1855.

Encl. 6, in No. 14.

Enclosure 6, in No. 14.

RULES for the Immigrants in Adelaide.

1st. THAT no immigrant be admitted without a recommendation from the surgeon or matron.

2d. That each emigrant shall bring to the depôt her bed, bedding, &c., when they shall have been passed by the health officer.

3d. That each person must go direct from the ship to the depôt.

4th. That, when admitted, each immigrant shall, on pain of exclusion, conform strictly to all the rules of the establishment, as below specified.

5th. That no person shall be permitted to remain in the depôt if she refuse any respectable situation.

REGULATIONS of the Depôt.

1st. THE inmates are required to keep their persons and rooms in clean and neat order; to rise at six o'clock in summer, and seven o'clock in winter; to cook their own food; to be in their rooms at sunset every evening to answer to their names.

2d. No girl is to remain out all night without permission, on pain of dismissal.

3d. No girl having once obtained a respectable situation, is eligible for re-admission into the depôt.

4th. No girl to sell her bedding at the depôt.

5th. The matron's orders to be in all cases strictly obeyed, under pain of expulsion.

RULES for the Immigrants at the Country Depôts.

1. THAT no immigrant be admitted into any country depôt without a written order from the comptroller in Adelaide, unless temporarily, on the responsibility of the matron; such admission, with the reasons thereof, to be immediately reported to the comptroller in Adelaide.

2. That no person shall be permitted to remain in the depôt if she refuse any respectable situation at 2 *s.* 6 *d.* per week.

3. The inmates are required to keep their persons and rooms in clean and neat order; to rise at six o'clock in summer, and seven o'clock in winter; to cook their own food; to be in their rooms at sunset every evening to answer to their names.

4. No girl is to remain out all night, without permission, on pain of dismissal.

5. No girl, having once obtained a respectable situation, is eligible for re-admission into the depôt.

6. No girl to sell her bedding or any of her property at the depôt.

7. The matron's orders to be in all cases strictly obeyed, under pain of expulsion.

8. That the management of the depôts shall be under the chairman of the district council, or some person duly authorised by the council, or the Governor-in-Chief. Clerical visitors to confine themselves to religious instruction, at times agreed upon with the matron.

Enclosure 7, in No. 14.

Encl. 7, in No. 14.

Female Immigrants' Depôt, Adelaide,
21 September 1855.

Sir,

AT the request of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, I have the honour to report upon the accommodation provided for the female immigrants at the depôt.

We have this day 720 adult females in the establishment, and as there are 180 more at the port who will be forwarded to the depôt in a few days, I am compelled to report the necessity for increased accommodation.

Our rooms contain on an average 15,000 cubic feet of air, and we have had 90 persons sleeping in each room, which affords only 166 cubic feet for each adult. This may be tolerated for a while as the rooms are well ventilated, and a constant supply of fresh air admitted. So long as there can be secured a sufficient supply of fresh air, it is of little moment how closely packed they may be.

The rooms are not calculated to hold more than 90; there is not mechanical room for more; they contain 920 square feet, and this only allows 10 square feet for each adult.

I may observe that the summer season is approaching; that these rooms are used as dormitories, mess, and work rooms.

His Excellency will therefore see the absolute necessity of providing more accommodation.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. Moorehouse,*
Superintendent.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

(A true copy.)
G. W. D. Beresford, Private Secretary.

Enclosure 8, in No. 14.

CLASSIFIED RETURN of Immigrants from 1st January to 25th September 1855.

	ENGLAND.						IRELAND.						SCOTLAND.						Total.	Grand Total.
	Married.		Single.		Under 14.		Married.		Single.		Under 14.		Married.		Single.		Under 14.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
First Quarter - - -	282	279	118	158	182	189	58	58	55	246	34	49	30	32	6	27	30	34	1,867	—
Magdalena, no records - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	326	2,193
Second Quarter - - -	544	546	223	322	345	412	150	150	91	1,015	55	90	56	56	15	56	42	51	4,219	—
David Malcolm, no record -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	239	4,458
Third Quarter - - -	136	134	64	115	100	100	155	155	255	849	46	56	51	51	40	63	43	47	2,460	2,460
Totals Classified - - -	962	959	405	595	627	701	363	363	401	2,110	135	195	137	139	61	146	115	132	9,111	9,111
Not Classified - - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	565	—

		England.	Ireland.	Scotland.
Married - - - -	M.	962	363	137
	F.	959	363	139
Single - - - -	M.	405	401	61
	F.	596	2,110	146
Under 14 - - - -	M.	627	135	115
	F.	701	195	132
		4,249	3,567	730

H. Duncan, M. D., Immigration Agent.

— No. 15. —

No. 15.
Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell to Sir W. Molesworth.
26 October 1855.

(No. 32.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell* to the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart.

Government House, Adelaide, 26 October 1855.
(Received, 5 March 1856.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 13, 5 April 1856, p. 154.)

1. IN reference to your despatch* covering a report furnished by the Land and Emigration Commissioners in reply to objections raised to certain Irish female emigrants sent to New South Wales, I beg leave to state that, however strong the reasons given by the Commissioners for sending those emigrants elsewhere, they should be warned not to be misled by any reasoning or apparently favourable circumstances to continue the supply to this colony of single Irish female immigrants.

* No. 16, 19 July 1855, *vide* page 141.

2. Serious loss has already been occasioned by immigration of the description referred to, as explained in my previous despatches on the subject, and there is little probability that the Irish female immigrants now here will soon find employment. Therefore, if the Commissioners cannot procure more suitable emigrants, it is much better they should send none than those whose presence here is so far from adding to the prosperity of the colony, that it is actually creating a large amount of destitution, which is more and more assuming a permanent character.

3. I trust the Commissioners, by renewed exertions, and the relaxation of impolitic restrictions, if experience has proved any to be impolitic, may still find

find amongst the labouring population of England and Scotland, and amongst a more suitable class in Ireland than the tenants of poor-houses, a sufficient supply of emigrants fitted to aid in worthily developing the ample resources of this country.

4. Really suitable emigrants will not have to complain of want of employment, for there is still an ample field for the employment of skilled agricultural labourers, really good domestic servants, and industrious mechanics. It will, however, be necessary to counterbalance the recent excessive female immigration with a proportionate number of single men.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell,*
Governor.

— No. 16. —

(No. 33.)

No. 16.
Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell to Sir W. Molesworth.
26 October 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell* to the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart.

Government House, Adelaide, 26 October 1855.
(Received, 5 March 1856.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 13, 5 April 1856, p. 154.)

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith the immigration agent's report for the quarter ended 30th September ultimo. It throws some light on the questions discussed in my despatch of even date herewith, as to the prospects still existing here for employment of suitable labour, and the little hope of witnessing the early absorption in the general population of the single Irish female immigrants arrived during the current year.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell,*
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 16.

Encl. in No. 16.

IMMIGRATION AGENT'S REPORT for Quarter ended 30th September 1855.

Sir, Immigration Office, Port Adelaide, 18 October 1855.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the perusal of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, the report of the Immigration Department for the quarter ending 30th September 1855.

During that period eight ships chartered by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners arrived, bringing to the colony an aggregate number of 2,460 souls.

The "Constantine" arrived from Plymouth on the 2d July, bringing to the colony 233 souls. Four births and one death occurred before disembarkation. She was commanded by Mr. Mansel Rogers, and Mr. William Mateer was the surgeon-superintendent.

This ship was generally well adapted for emigrants, though rather indifferently lighted in the fore part. There was very little sickness during the voyage. The emigrants conducted themselves well, and the master and officers of the ship gave every assistance and support to the surgeon-superintendent.

The emigrants by this ship were generally a badly-selected class of persons.

The "Octavia" arrived on the 18th of July, from Southampton. She was commanded by Mr. William Dale, and Mr. Robins William Cooke was the surgeon-superintendent. The number of emigrants disembarked was 382. Five births and seven deaths were the casualties during the voyage.

The surgeon-superintendent fulfilled the duties of his office most efficiently. The emigrants, including 119 young women, were generally of a class unsuited for this colony. The surgeon-superintendent had great difficulty in enforcing cleanliness. The gratuity of the baker was arrested for inefficiency, and the gratuity of the chief mate was also stopped for want of kindness and attention to the emigrants. He seemed to take pleasure in putting them to inconvenience; leaving them standing for hours on the wharf after sunset, when it was his duty to have sent a boat at that time to take them to the ship.

The gratuity to the officers of ships is payable only when they are active in promoting the comfort of the people.

By instructions from his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, founded upon the legal opinion of the Honourable the Advocate-general, I refused to sign the ship's papers certifying that all

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all the requirements of the charter-party had been fulfilled; which certificate, countersigned by the Governor of the colony, is required by the Commissioners before the second moiety of the freight is paid. The Advocate-general is of opinion that the master of an emigrant ship who discharges cargo before the expiration of the 14 lay days allowed for the disembarkation of the people, vitiates the provisions of his charter-party.

It has been the invariable custom at Port Adelaide not to allow the discharge of cargo from emigrant ships till the people have been finally landed. The observance of this regulation is insisted upon for several reasons: in the first place, discharge of cargo is attended with danger to the women and children on account of the hatches being open all day long. In the second place, the emigrants are put to serious inconvenience, as it is necessary to bring on deck all the luggage of the people before the cargo can be reached; it thus obstructs the space allotted for the use of the emigrants, and interferes with another clause of the charter-party, in which it is expressly stipulated that the upper deck shall be kept quite clear for the use of the emigrants.

The charter-party makes it necessary that there shall be 14 clear days allowed for the embarkation of the emigrants, and also 14 clear days allowed for their disembarkation, and that the ship shall not be considered ready for the reception of passengers till the whole freight is on board and stowed away. I conceive that the natural inference is, that what is considered necessary for the safety and comfort of the people during embarkation is equally necessary during their disembarkation, The master of the "Octavia" did not coincide in opinion with the Advocate-general regarding the reading of the charter-party, and in defiance of warning continued the discharge of his cargo during the lay days. It is now left to the Commissioners at home to decide this question, and to alter the phraseology of the clause in the charter-party if it be supposed that the language used is not sufficiently explicit.

The "South Sea" arrived from Plymouth on the 30th July, with 335 emigrants. She was commanded by Mr. George Geere, and Mr. James T. Fraser was the surgeon-superintendent. Three births and four deaths occurred before disembarkation. This ship had a cargo of iron, which strained the vessel and caused leakage, which produced dampness between decks.

There were 124 single women by this ship, the majority of whom are not likely to find ready employment in this colony. The discipline and management of the ship reflected credit on all in charge.

The "Aliquis" arrived from Liverpool with 394 souls. She was commanded by Mr. Thomas Paine, and Dr. John Mackenzie was the surgeon-superintendent. No births or deaths had occurred during the voyage, but after arrival there was one birth on board before the lay days were expired. This vessel arrived in beautiful order; great method seemed to prevail in all the details of management.

More than 200 young women arrived by this ship, of a class as unsuitable for this colony as could be selected.

The "Admiral Boxer" arrived on the 21st August, with 384 Government emigrants. This ship was well adapted for emigrants, being lofty and well ventilated. The discipline and management in this ship were excellent; all the people expressed themselves well satisfied with their diet and treatment. The casualties consisted of three births and the death of one infant child.

One hundred and fifty-three young women arrived by this ship, adding to the accumulating numbers of those who can find no employment.

The "Lismoyne" arrived from Southampton on the 22d August, with 215 souls. She was commanded by Mr. Henry King, and Mr. J. S. Millner was the surgeon-superintendent. Five births and two deaths were the casualties before final disembarkation.

This ship also arrived in good order, contentment prevailed on board; but, as usual, the majority of the single women were selected from a most ineligible class of persons.

The "Switzerland" arrived on the 11th of September, and landed in the colony 262 souls. Two deaths and one birth took place at sea. She was commanded by Mr. Samuel Doherty, and Mr. Harrold Owen is the surgeon-superintendent.

By this vessel a number of Highland families arrived, aided by the funds of the Highland and Island Emigration Society of Scotland. These people are generally valuable colonists; their social and domestic habits and attachments lead them to remain together, so that inducements which would lure away others to the gold fields are powerless on the Highlander. The colonists found that those who arrived by the "Hercules" were at that time a most elegible class of people.

The circumstances of the colony have changed since that time, but I believe the pastoral settlers will willingly engage these families. The demand, however, for that class of persons is limited. The greater number of those who arrived by the "Switzerland" have been sent to Guichen Bay.

The "Thomas Arbuthnot" arrived on the 12th of September, with 253 Government emigrants. She was commanded by Mr. Richard Martin, and Mr. James O'Donnell was the surgeon-superintendent. Before the final disembarkation two births added to the numbers originally embarked; there were no deaths. There were by this ship 109 young women, generally of the same class as those with whom we have become so familiar.

It gives me pleasure to state that this ship also was in good order, and under good discipline.

I think it well to lay before his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief certain classified returns, marked respectively (A.), (B.), (C.), (D.), and (E.), explanatory of the immigration during

during the last quarter. These tables will convey more information than I could easily condense into any written statement.

His Excellency will perceive that during that period 2,460 Government immigrants have arrived in eight ships, giving an average, within a fraction, of 307 souls to each ship. The births numbered 24, and the deaths in gross numbers were 17, of whom three were those of adults, and 14 those of children. The average of mortality during the quarter being less than one per cent., this is very much below the usual annual average. The surgeons-superintendent who have had charge during the quarter have done their duty with great efficiency, and I have not the slightest doubt that the small amount of mortality is in a great measure to be attributed to the zealous discharge of their duty.

A large proportion of the immigrants, especially the single women, seem to me to have been selected without any reference to the class of people who are most in demand.

Were the young women of a proper class, even though numbers might temporarily be in excess of the demand, yet some hope might be entertained of their gradual absorption into the mass of the population, but I see no such prospect for the majority now unemployed.

Any one accustomed to visit the rural districts of either Scotland or Ireland must know well that females there are employed in out-door farm work in a way not customary in England. The female peasantry of both these countries think it no degradation either to make hay or to reap the corn-fields, to milk cows, or manage the details of the farm-yard.

It is to that sort of work that a great many of the young women now unemployed have been accustomed; and it is my sincere conviction that till work of that kind is provided for them, they must be maintained in idleness. Let me not be misunderstood; I do not think they should be asked either to dig or to plough, or to do ought to which their strength is unequal; but out-door farm work has been their usual occupation at home, it is the most healthful employment in which they could be engaged, and for nothing else are they in the slightest degree fitted.

A great number of the married people who arrived during the quarter ought never to have been selected for emigration to this colony, and never would have been selected by those who have the interests of this colony at heart; many of them are evidently physically incapacitated for active labour.

Farm servants are in demand; that is, men who can plough, and who have otherwise a practical knowledge of husbandry, but few such men arrive, and it is that class of persons who will in all probability be chiefly in demand for the next 12 months.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. Duncan*, M.D.,
Immigration Agent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

No. 1.—Abstract Quarterly Returns.

Immigrants.

Months composing the Quarter.	Number of Emigrant Vessels arrived.	Number of Deaths on Board or in Quarantine.	Number of Births on Board or in Quarantine.	Gross Number of Immigrants arrived.	Number of Adult Labourers.	Number of Agricultural Labourers.	Number of Shepherds.	Number of Domestic Servants.		Number of Mechanics engaged in erecting Buildings, or in obtaining or preparing Building Materials.	Number of Tradesmen making or selling Articles of Consumption.	Number of Tradespeople engaged in making Articles of Clothing.		Number of other Mechanics, &c., not included in the foregoing Columns.
								M.	F.			M.	F.	
July	3	12	12	950	155	95	–	2	368	–	–	–	–	39
August	3	3	9	994	29	185	–	–	452	–	–	–	–	48
September	2	2	3	516	41	44	4	2	150	–	–	–	–	52
Totals	8	17	24	2,460	225	324	4	4	970	–	–	–	–	139

No. 2.—Quarterly Return (Prices).

Return showing the Average Retail Prices of Provisions and Clothing in the Colony of South Australia, in the Quarter ended the 30th September 1855.

Articles.—Bread, per 2lb. loaf, 10*d.*; butter (fresh), 1*s.* 8*d.* per lb.; butter (salt), 1*s.* 6*d.* ditto; blue, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto; cheese, 2*s.* ditto; candles, 8*d.* ditto; flour, 6*d.* ditto; lamp

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lamp oil, 8*s.* to 9*s.* per gallon; meat (beef and mutton), 6*d.* to 8*d.* per lb.; oatmeal, 6*d.* ditto; pepper, 1*s.* ditto; potatoes, 2½*d.* to 3*d.* ditto; rice, 2½*d.* to 5*d.* ditto; sugar, 3½*d.* to 5*d.* ditto; salt, 1½*d.* ditto; soap, 6*d.* to 7*d.* ditto; starch, 10*d.* ditto; tea, 2*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* ditto; tobacco, 3*s.* to 4*s.* ditto.

Clothing.—Blankets, 9*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.* per pair; boots, 6*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.* ditto; bonnets, 1*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.* 6*d.* each; calico, 3*d.* to 8*d.* per yard; men's caps, 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* each; duck trousers, 4*s.* 9*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* per pair; flannel, 1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per yard; gown print, 6*s.* 6*d.* to 9*s.* 6*d.* per dress; handkerchiefs, 9*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.* each; moleskin coats and trousers, 15*s.* to 20*s.* ditto; straw hats, 1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* each; shirts, 2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.* each; shoes (women's) 3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* 6*d.* per pair; shawls, 5*s.* to 30*s.* each; men's stockings, 1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per pair; women's ditto, 8*d.* to 2*s.* ditto, according to quality.

No. 3.—Quarterly Return (Wages).

Return showing the Average Wages of Mechanics and others in South Australia, for the Three Months ended the 30th September 1855.

Blacksmiths, 12*s.* to 13*s.* 4*d.* per day, without board or lodging; bakers, 6*s.* to 7*s.* per day, with board and lodging; bricklayers, 10*s.* to 12*s.* per day, without board or lodging; brickmakers, 20*s.* per 1,000, with board and lodging; bullock drivers, 40*l.* to 50*l.* per annum, with board and lodging; butchers, 7*s.* to 8*s.* per day, ditto; carpenters, 10*s.* to 12*s.* per day, without board or lodging; cabinetmakers, 10*s.* to 11*s.* per day, ditto; carriage-makers, 12*s.* to 13*s.* 4*d.*, ditto; coopers, 8*s.* to 10*s.*, ditto; domestic servants, males, 30*l.* to 50*l.* per annum, with board and lodging; females, 12*l.* to 20*l.*, ditto; day labourers, 5*s.* to 7*s.* per day, without board or lodging; farm servants, married couples, 40*l.* to 60*l.* per annum, with board and lodging; single men, 35*l.* to 50*l.*, ditto; masons, 10*s.* to 12*s.* per day, without board or lodging; millers, 10*s.* to 12*s.* per day, ditto; miners, 5*s.* to 7*s.*, ditto; painters and glaziers, 8*s.* to 10*s.*, ditto; plasterers, 10*s.* to 12*s.*, ditto; sawyers, 10*s.* to 15*s.* per 100 feet; saddlers, 8*s.* to 10*s.* per day, without board or lodging; shoemakers, 7*s.* to 10*s.*, ditto; shepherds, 36*l.* to 40*l.* per annum, with board and lodging; tailors, 10*d.* to 1*s.* per hour, without board or lodging; tanners, 8*s.* to 12*s.*, ditto; wheelwrights, 12*s.* to 13*s.* 4*d.*, ditto.

Answers to Queries.

1. What is the expense of erecting a country dwelling suitable to an agricultural labourer?—From 20*l.* to 60*l.*

2. What is the rent of a town lodging suitable to a mechanic and his family?—Eight to ten shillings a week.

3. What funds have been placed at your disposal during the past quarter for the relief of immigrants?—None.

4. Is there any fund in the colony for the relief of destitute poor?—A sum is voted annually, and put under the management of the Destitute Poor Board.

5. State the description of labour which is in request in the colony?—There is little demand for labour generally, but men practically acquainted with agriculture are wanted; single men are preferred.

6. Would the rate of immigration of the last quarter satisfy the existing demand for labour?—The rate of immigration has exceeded the demand, but the supply has not been of the kind wanted.

7. Could it be safely increased with reference to the supplies of food in the colony?—There is abundance of food for any number.

8. State any particulars relative to immigration and the demand for labour which you think may be useful?—Steady, active young men, accustomed to ploughing and other agricultural operations, are likely to be more in demand than any other class.

H. Duncan, M. D.,
Immigration Agent.

(A).—Return of the Assisted Immigrants to Adelaide during the Quarter ended 30 September 1855.

IMMIGRANTS.													IMMIGRANTS.									
Births on the Passage.			Deaths on the Passage.										Number Landed.						Number Embarked.					
			Above 14 Years.			Under 14 Years.							Above 14 Years.		Under 14 Years.				Above 14 Years.		Under 14 Years.			
						7 and under 14 Years.		1 and under 7 Years.		Under 1 Year.														
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total Souls.	Statute Adults.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total Souls.	Statute Adults.
16	8	24	–	3	3	–	–	1	4	6	3	14	701	1,367	193	199	2,460	2,241½	701	1,370	184	198	2,453	2,247

Grand Total. 17

H. Duncan, M. D.,
Immigration Agent.

(B.)—Return of Immigrants (classified) who arrived at Port Adelaide during the Quarter ended 30 September 1855.

ENGLAND.									IRELAND.									SCOTLAND.									Grand Total.		
Married.		Single.		Under 14.		Totals.			Married.		Single.		Under 14.		Totals.			Married.		Single.		Under 14.		Totals.					
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M	F.	M	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	Grand Total.
136	134	64	115	105	96	305	345	650	155	155	255	849	46	56	456	1,060	1,516	51	51	40	63	42	47	133	161	294	894	1,566	2,460

H. Duncan, M. D.
Immigration Agent.

(C.)—Return, showing the State of Education of the Immigrants arriving during the Quarter ended 30 September 1855.

Under 4 Years.			4 and under 7.			7 and under 14.			14 and under 21.			21 and upwards.			Totals.			Grand Total.
Cannot read.	Can read only.	Can read and write.	Cannot read.	Can read only.	Can read and write.	Cannot read.	Can Read only.	Can Read and Write.	Cannot Read.	Can Read only.	Can Read and Write.	Cannot Read.	Can Read only.	Can Read and Write.	Cannot Read.	Can Read only.	Can read and Write.	
139	–	–	70	6	–	60	54	63	147	203	356	312	361	689	728	624	1,108	2,460

H. Duncan, M. D.,
Immigration Agent.

(D.)—Return, showing the Religious Denomination of the Immigrants arriving during the Quarter ended 30 September 1855.

Church of England.		Church of Scotland.		Free Church of Scotland.		Wesleyan Methodists.		Other Protestants.		Roman Catholics.		Jews.		Total.		Grand Total.
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
340	503	47	53	67	82	15	19	68	60	357	849	–	–	894	1,566	2,460

H. Duncan, M. D.,
Immigration Agent.

(E.)—Return of Unemployed Immigrants supported by Government, on Monday, 1 October 1855.

IMMIGRANTS.	MALES.									FEMALES.									TOTALS.				GRAND TOTAL.
	England.		Ireland.		Scotland.		Other Countries.			England.		Ireland.		Scotland.		Other Countries.							
	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	England.	Ireland.	Scotland.	Other Countries.	
Immigrants maintained on shipboard under terms of charter-party	7	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	10	14	4	73	–	–	–	–	–	91	28	73	–	–	101
Immigrants, able-bodied, not yet employed, rationed by Government at Adelaide - -	1	2	3	6	*48	*30	–	–	90	25	5	566	3	*30	*23	–	–	652	33	578	*131	–	742
Ditto, ditto, returned from employment -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	105	–	–	–	–	–	105	–	105	–	–	105
Immigrants rationed at country stations—probable number - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	117	–	–	–	–	–	117	–	117	–	–	117
Total - - -	8	5	3	6	48	30	–	–	100	39	9	861	3	30	23	–	–	965	61	873	131	–	1,065

* The above were chiefly Highland Emigrants, per "Switzerland," waiting for the vessel to take them to Guichen Bay.

H. Duncan, M. D.,
Immigration Agent.

— No. 17. —

No. 17.
Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell to Sir W. Molesworth.
29 October 1855.

(No. 34.)

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell* to the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart.

Government House, Adelaide, 29 October 1855.
(Received, 5 March 1856.)

Sir,

27 October 1855.

I have the honour to transmit a commissariat certificate for 951 *l.*, paid by the treasurer of this colony into the commissariat here, and have to request that that amount may be paid to the Land and Emigration Commissioners, as a remittance on account of "deposits in aid of emigration."

I have, &c.
(signed) *R. G. MacDonnell*, Governor.

— No. 18. —

No. 18.
Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell to Sir W. Molesworth.
17 Nov. 1855.

(No. 36.)

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell* to the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart.

Government House, Adelaide, 17 November 1855.
(Received, 5 March 1856.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 16, 18 April 1856, page 155.)

Enclosure No. 1.

I have the honour to enclose extract from Report of the Immigration Board assembled here to consider certain circumstances connected with the "Taymouth Castle" immigrant ship. Small-pox having broken out on board that vessel, and being prevalent at the time of her arrival in this colony, she was placed in quarantine, and the expenses of demurrage, the location of the immigrants on a separate island, their subsistence, transport, &c., has cost the colony not less then 2,476 *l.* 6 *s.* 11 *d.*

Enclosure No. 2.

It is therefore very desirable, on mere economical grounds, independent of higher reasons, that all possible precautions should be taken to prevent the introduction

introduction of such infection on board of emigrant vessels. The Immigration Board appear, from the enclosed extract, to consider it proved that the small-pox existed on board previous to the sailing of the "Taymouth Castle" from England.

They therefore recommend the Land and Emigration Commissioners to make it imperative that there should be a medical examination of the crew of each emigrant vessel previous to the commencement of each voyage, and that all emigrants should have been vaccinated. They think, had these precautions been adopted in the case of the "Taymouth Castle," there is every reason to believe that small-pox would not have appeared.

I need not, of course, dwell on the importance of adopting whatever measures may be judged most available for averting in future such distressing and costly results as occurred in the case of the "Taymouth Castle." I submit, therefore, the expediency of transmitting the enclosed to the Emigration Commissioners for their favourable consideration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *R.. G. MacDonnell,* Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 18.

Encl. 1, in No. 18.

EXTRACT from Report of Immigration Board *Re* Emigrant Ship "Taymouth Castle."

Immigration Office, Port Adelaide,
Sir, 22 October 1855.

WE have the honour to forward, for the perusal and approval of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, our report, sitting as an Immigrant Board, of circumstances connected with the "Taymouth Castle."

We would divide the investigation under three heads, —

1st. Charges affecting the master and the charter-party of the ship.

2d. Charges affecting the issuer of stores.

3d. Charges affecting the surgeon superintendent.

We beg to premise that we had in this investigation the greatest difficulty in arriving at any certain conclusion, from it being out of our power personally to visit and examine the ship, and also from the impracticability of bringing accuser and accused face to face.

Regarding the first head, viz., charges affecting the master and charter-party of the ship, we are of opinion that it is proved that small-pox existed on board at the time of the embarkation of the emigrants at Plymouth, but there is no satisfactory proof that the master of the ship was aware of the circumstance.

We suggest the propriety of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners making it imperative that medical examination of the crew of every ship chartered by them should be made previous to the embarkation of the emigrants, and that the regulations making it necessary that all emigrants should have been vaccinated, should be extended to the sailors of the ship. We are satisfied, that had these precautions been adopted in the "Taymouth Castle," there is every reason to believe that small-pox would not have appeared.

(signed) *H. Duncan,* M. D., Immigration Agent.
C. M. Drew, Inspector of Police.
B. Douglas, Naval Officer and Harbour Master.
G. J. Dashwood, Collector of Customs.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

Certified true Extract.
Oliver K. Richardson, Pro Colonial Secretary.

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Encl. 2, in No. 18.

Enclosure 2, in No. 18.

ABSTRACT of Expenses direct and Contingent upon the Detention of the Ship "Taymouth Castle," and Passengers in Quarantine.

		1855:	£.	s.	d.
River Murray Navigation Company.	Hire of Melbourne steamer - -	August - -	10	–	–
J. Mempes - -	Beds, blankets, &c. - - -	- - - -	201	8	6
F. J. Beck & Co. -	Tents - - - - - -	- - - -	200	–	–
John Cave - -	Water kegs - - - - -	- - - -	2	–	–
	Special constables, 12 - - -	- - - -	91	10	–
W. Webster - -	Provisions, groceries, &c. - -	August & September	18	14	6
H. Ranford - -	Ditto - meat - - - -	- - July, August, and September.	207	17	6½
J. G. Malin - -	Ditto - bread - - - -	July and August -	234	13	9½
Simpson and Trinity Board.	Coals - - - - - -	- - - -	80	19	7
Alfred France -	Medical comforts - - - -	July and September	28	6	6
W. J. Turner - -	Medicines - - - - -	August & September	13	9	11
Thomas Davies -	Water - - - - - -	June and August -	24	–	–
E. French and others	Hardware, &c. - - - -	August & September	19	7	6
Master Smith and others.	Work done and timber - - -	July - - -	81	4	8
	Compensation for a cottage on quarantine ground.	- - - -	40	–	–
	Ditto - - - ditto - - -	- - - -	20	–	–
	Ditto - - - - for clothes injured or destroyed.	- - - -	11	9	6
Isaac Busbridge -	Detention on board "Clarendon" -	August 19—Sept. 9	5	–	–
Elizabeth Saunders -	Acting as matron while in quarantine	July 12—Sept. 8	5	–	–
Stephen Milstead -	Acting as constable on "Taymouth Castle"	July 12—Sept. 30	10	–	–
	Boat hire, &c. - - -	July and October -	210	3	6
Creswell - -	Hire of "Clarendon" as hospital ship.	July to September -	227	10	–
	Demurrage "Taymouth Castle," 682 tons at 4½ per ton per diem.	July 11 to Aug. 7	345	5	3
Kitching - -	Charge of immigrants per "Taymouth Castle," when under quarantine, 92 days at 42 *s.* per diem.	- - - -	193	4	–
	Payment to labourers bringing up "Clarendon."	- - - -	6	15	–
	Ship keeper "Clarendon," three months, at 8 *l.* per month.	- - - -	24	–	–
Taymouth Castle, six Men.	Provisions, &c. as per account -	- - - -	60	17	2
	Labour at quarantine station - -	- - - -	3	–	–
John Sabor - -	Cartage of goods to colonial store -	- - - -	–	10	–
		£.	2,476	6	11

(signed) *H. Duncan*, M. D.,
Immigration Agent.

— No. 19. —

No. 19.
Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell to Sir G. Grey.
2 February 1856.

(No. 62.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Adelaide, 2 February 1856.
(Received, 22 May 1856.)

Sir,

Page 143.

1. I HAVE carefully considered your despatch * of the 15th October covering copy of a communication from the Emigration Commissioners explanatory of their reasons for sending, during 1855, so many single Irish female immigrants to this colony. I do not think it necessary to refer at length to the reasons given by the Commissioners for that emigration, beyond stating, that they are very much mistaken if they imagine there is any necessity for sending supplies of single women to this colony, as there is probably at this moment an excess of females over males in the province.

2. Another point raised by the Commissioners requires some notice, viz., the relative proportion according to the countries of their birth, of emigrants previously

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previously sent to South Australia. It is true, a greater number had been sent of English and Scotch in proportion to the population of England and Scotland than of Irish, in proportion to the population of Ireland, as compared with the other two countries. That fact might have constituted a fair reason for endeavouring gradually to assimilate the proportion of Irish to that of English and Scotch, if Imperial interests urgently required that such adjustment should take place, but I see in it no reason for sending here, suddenly in one year from Ireland, not merely more than half of the entire female immigration, but nearly treble the number of the united English and Scotch single adult females, comprising, moreover, many hundreds of immigrants decidedly unsuitable for any immediate useful purpose in any country, and more likely to add to the pauperism than contribute to increasing the resources of the colony.

4. It is quite evident that, because the adjustment of the proportions of immigrants from three countries might gradually have been accomplished under favourable circumstances and judicious management, no reason can thence be adduced in favour of an attempt to accomplish that object suddenly, and by a management which appears to have failed in selecting persons suitable, even in the narrowest sense of that term.

5. Omitting, however, further consideration of these questions, which have reference to the past, and which can only be useful as a warning for the future, I have to state that after mature consideration with my Executive Council, I consider it my duty to request that all assisted immigration at the expense of this colony (except as its affects parties enabled to be sent out under the existing Remittance Regulations) may be discontinued till further advice on the subject.

6. It is desirable that the large funds entrusted to the Commissioners should not be expended at a time when the amount of immigration is actually generating destitution, and becoming a burthen to the colony. I only hope that the difficulties experienced by the Commissioners in finding a sufficient number of immigrants other than Irish of the description lately sent, may have had the effect of inducing them to diminish the number of vessels, which it appears they had intended despatching to this colony in the first six months of this year. It now seems that owing to the bad harvest of 1854-55, the province was not able to absorb usefully, so great an addition as 13,400 immigrants (including 1,530 Germans), added in 12 months to a population of 80,000. It is desirable, therefore, that the stream of immigration should cease for a few months, as the least expensive and most efficacious mode of allowing the difficulties of the present crisis to adjust themselves. The Legislature now in session, can, if they see fit, determine otherwise.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell,*
Governor.

— No. 20. —

(No. 68.)

No. 20.
Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere.
6 March 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere.*

Government House, Adelaide, 6 March 1856.
(Received, 11 June 1856.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 29, 18 June 1856, page 155.)

IN reference to the request transmitted in my despatch, No. 62,* after consultation with my Executive Council, that all assisted emigration to this colony should cease till further advices on the subject; I have now the honour to report that in conformity with the intimation conveyed in the above despatch, I referred the subject, by message to the Legislature, with a view to having the subject dealt with by the representatives of the people, as the parties most concerned in arriving at a sound decision, and on whom might fairly be thrown the responsibility of dealing with a question so serious, both in a general and a pecuniary point of view, as the continuance or discontinuance of emigration.

* 2 February 1856, page 138.

Enclosure.

2. I now transmit the decision of the Legislature in the form of an address to myself, requesting me to give the necessary instructions for the resumption of emigration to this colony, at the rate of one vessel per month, the emigrants to consist of carefully selected "agricultural labourers, farm servants, shepherds and miners."

3. This address appears to me so worded, as if strictly interpreted, to exclude all further female immigration, or at least to preclude the introduction of more single women, unless arriving as members of the families of the immigrants enumerated in the address. On this subject I may remark, that for some time to come, there can neither on grounds of morality nor expediency, be any necessity for adding to the already redundant female population of this province.

4. I may add, that I consider the decision arrived at by the Legislature as harmonising with my own views on the subject, except that I think a cessation for three or four months longer of all immigration, even at the proposed reduced rate, would have been attended with beneficial effects. I fear much money will be expended in importing labourers, many of whom will leave us for a better field of employment, if a little longer time be not given for the absorption of those already arrived.

5. I shall only add, that as there are railway works now in progress here, I think the gradual importation of about 200 navvies, accustomed to work on railways and public roads, would be beneficial, I mention this, because although the advantage of introducing such labourers is evident, I doubt, if strictly speaking, they can be regarded as included in the classification contained in the address of the Legislature.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell,*
Governor.

Encl. in No. 20.

Enclosure in No. 20.

SESSION 1855–56.—ADDRESS No. 14.

TO His Excellency Sir *Richard Graves MacDonnell*, Knight Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Province of South Australia, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

The Humble Address of the Legislative Council of South Australia,

Showeth,

That at a Meeting of the said Council, holden on the 22d February 1856, it was *Resolved*, That an Address be presented to his Excellency requesting him to instruct the Colonization Commissioners to resume the despatch of emigrants to this colony, to consist of carefully selected agricultural labourers, farm servants, shepherds, and miners, to the extent of one vessel a month.

(signed) *J. H. Fisher*, Speaker.
Legislative Council Office, 23 February 1856. *F. C. Singleton*, Clerk, Legislative Council.

(True copy.)

Geo. W. D. Beresford, Private Secretary.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

(No. 4.)

No. 1.
Right Hon. Sidney Herbert to the Officer Administering the Government.
24 February 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *Sidney Herbert* to the Officer Administering the Government.

Sir, Downing-street, 24 February 1855.

THE Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners have informed me, with reference to a penalty for breaches of the charter-party, which they have recently felt called upon to inflict on the owners of an emigrant vessel, that the assessment of such penalties would be materially facilitated if, in cases where short issues or short shipments are reported by the Colonial Immigration Boards to have taken place on any ship chartered by the Emigration Commissioners, those Boards would report the specific amount of the various deficiencies, as far as the evidence before them may enable them to do so. I have therefore to request that you will give directions which will cause a compliance with the suggestion of the Commissioners.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Sidney Herbert.*

— No. 2. —

(No. 12.)

No. 2.
Right Hon. Sir G. Grey to the Officer Administering the Government.
25 April 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart. to the Officer Administering the Government.

Sir, Downing-street, 25 April 1855.

WITH reference to Earl Grey's despatch* of the 17th July 1851, stating that a sum of 40 *l.* was to be allowed, on certain conditions, to the surgeons of emigrant ships, to defray the expense of their return passage to this country, I have now to acquaint you that as the price of passages has risen considerably since that date, it has been determined that the allowance in question shall be raised from 40 *l.* to 60 *l.* subject to the same conditions, as to good conduct and return, as before; the same to be reduced, whenever a fall in the price of passages from Australia shall take place.

This increase will take effect from the present date, in order to include the claims of officers now on their way home.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey.*

* *Vide* Papers presented by Command, 30 April 1852, page 28.

— No. 3. —

(No. 16.)

No. 3.
Right Hon. Lord John Russell, to Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell.
19 July 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell* to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell.*

Sir, Downing-street, 19 July 1855.

WITH reference to the emigration which is conducted from this country to the colony under your government, under the superintendence of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, and to the proportionate amount of emigrants selected by that Board from Great Britain and Ireland respectively, I enclose herewith, for your information, the copy of a report which has been furnished by the Commissioners, in answer to a reference which was made to them by my direction, of a despatch from the Governor of New South Wales, in which objection was raised to emigrants who had been sent to that colony from Ireland.

7 July 1855, page 31.

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Irrespective of the points which have been in discussion, between the Governor of New South Wales and the Emigration Commissioners, the report now transmitted contains valuable information, which should be available for the benefit of all the Australian colonies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

— No. 4. —

No. 4.
Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth to Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell.
28 July 1855.

16 July 1855, page 80.

(No. 2.)

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart. to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell.*

Sir, Downing-street, 28 July 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, relative to the desire expressed by your Government that families comprising a greater number of young children than the Commissioners have been in the habit of considering admissible, should be sent by them to South Australia, under the Remittance Regulations.

It appears that the Commissioners are prepared to carry out, so far as may be in their power, the instruction which has thus been conveyed to them, although they have thought it right to place on record the apprehension which they entertain that some increase of sickness and mortality may be expected to arise from the change.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Molesworth.*

— No. 5. —

No. 5.
Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth to Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell.
31 August 1855.

9 August 1855, page 34.

(No. 7.)

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart. to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell.*

Sir, Downing-street, 31 August 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you the copy of a report which has been drawn up by the Land and Emigration Commissioners, setting forth the comparative advantages which, so far as the means at their disposal enables them to judge, are derivable from the two sets of rules (the Deposit and Remittance Regulations), under which Government emigration to the Australian colonies is now conducted, together with Tabular Returns showing the rates of payment in the different colonies under the different Regulations, the number of persons nominated, and the amount of money received under them during 1853 and 1854.

I transmit this statement to you, for your information and your assistance in any review which may hereafter be made in the colony, of the regulations upon this kind of emigration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Molesworth.*

— No. 6. —

No. 6.
Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth to Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell.
12 Sept. 1855.

(No. 8.)

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart. to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell.*

Sir, Downing-street, 12 September 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have received your despatch,* No. 2, of the 25th of June, and that in conformity with the wish expressed by you I have instructed the Emigration Commissioners to cease sending any unmarried female emigrants from Ireland to South Australia, excepting only such unmarried females as may form part of any families who are sent out by the same opportunity.

* Page 108.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Molesworth.*

— No. 7. —

(No. 15.)

No. 7.
Right Hon. Sir G. Grey to Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell.
15 October 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart. to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell.*

Sir, Downing-street, 15 October 1855.

WITH reference to Sir W. Molesworth's despatch, No. 8, of the 12th ultimo, as well as to Mr. Finniss' despatches, No. 34 and 35,* of the 11th and 12th of May last, enclosing the report of the immigration agent at Adelaide for the year 1854, and representing the difficulty which had been experienced in providing employment for single Irishwomen, I now transmit for your information the copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, pointing out the causes which have hitherto led to their sending out this class of persons, and stating that the most effectual steps in their power will be taken to increase the number of English and Scotch emigrants to South Australia.

* pp. 101. 103.

8 October 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey.*

Enclosure in No. 7.

Encl. in No. 7.

Sir, Emigration Office, 8 October 1855.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Elliot's letter of the 14th ultimo, accompanied by a despatch from the Governor of South Australia, complaining of the large number of Irish female emigrants sent out to that colony by this Board. We have since received your further letter of 29th ultimo, enclosing the report of the immigration agent at Adelaide for the year 1854, with a despatch from the Acting Governor on the immigration of the first quarter of 1855; and again calling our attention to the difficulty experienced in providing employment for single Irish women.

No. 34, 11 May.
" 35, 12 May.

2. In obedience to Sir W. Molesworth's instructions, conveyed in your former letter, we took immediate steps to discontinue the emigration to South Australia of Irish single women, unaccompanied by their parents. It only remains for us now to explain the circumstances which led to this emigration.

3. In our report* of the 7th July last, we have explained at considerable length, in answer to a despatch from the Governor of New South Wales, the circumstances which, in the last two-and-a-half years, have compelled us to have recourse to Ireland, more than in former years, for emigrants to fill our ships; and, anticipating the probability of similar representations from the colonies of South Australia and Victoria, we ventured to suggest that the substance of that explanation should be communicated to them. We shall not reproduce on this occasion the statements embodied in our report of 7th July, but we may be allowed to recapitulate very briefly the general principles on which our proceedings have been conducted, and to point out how they have led to the results of which the authorities in South Australia complain.

* Page 31.

4. When emigration to Australia recommenced under the auspices of this Board, and it was necessary to sketch out the scheme on which it should be conducted, it appeared to us that among the principal points to be kept in view were, first to distribute the emigration among the various divisions of the United Kingdom, as far as possible, in proportion to the number of their inhabitants; second, to avoid any disparity of the sexes in our own emigration, and to correct that which would be naturally produced by the unassisted emigration; and, third, to send out none but women of unimpeachable character. In the report of 7th July, to which we have referred, it will be seen that up to the close of 1852 we had succeeded in the first of these objects, the emigration to the Australian colonies generally having been fairly distributed among the English, Irish, and Scotch. But as we were aware that the original founders of the colony of South Australia had been English and Scotch, and as we were anxious as far as possible to assimilate the immigration to the existing population, we endeavoured to keep the Irish immigration into South Australia as low as we could without causing complaint in the other colonies; the result was, that while the centesimal proportions of the population were,

England - - - - - - - - -	65·68
Scotland - - - - - - - - -	10·50
Ireland - - - - - - - - -	23·82

the immigration into South Australia, between the 1st January 1847 and the 31st December 1852, consisted of

English - - - - - - -	19,450 = 74·75
Scotch - - - - - - -	2,620 = 10·07
Irish - - - - - - - -	3,951 = 15·18

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Even in 1853 and 1854, when the pressure of the enlarged emigration had forced us to have more free recourse to Ireland, it will be seen from the tables annexed to the Acting Governor's despatch of the 11th May last, that the proportion of Irish to English and Scotch was, in 1853, only 9 per cent., and in 1854, 27 per cent; in the former year very much below, and in the latter only slightly above the proportion of the population of Ireland to that of Great Britain. So far, therefore, from having disregarded the wishes of the inhabitants of South Australia in this respect, we fear that we are rather open to the imputation of having favoured them at the expense of the other Australian colonies.

5. But the complaint is not only, or perhaps mainly, that we have sent out Irish, but that we have sent out unmarried Irish women, not members of families. Now we may point out that if our emigration be restricted to families only the number of adult females will, as a general rule, not more than balance the number of males, and no provision would be made against the excess of males created by the unassisted emigration. It will be seen from the report of the immigration agent, in the despatch of 11th May, that notwithstanding the large number of single women sent out by us, which gave an excess of 1,606 women on our emigration, the excess of males over females on the whole of the year's emigration was 735 out of 11,791, being at the rate of 6·15 per cent. Had we restricted ourselves to securing a parity of the sexes in our emigration, this excess would not have been increased more than threefold, a result which, if repeated for a few years, could not fail to have the most injurious effects on the permanent moral interests of the colony.

6. The importance of this question had attracted the notice of Sir H. Young in former years, as will be seen from a reference to his despatch* of the 12th February 1852, and to our report* on it of the 26th July following. It will be seen that he there regarded an excess of less than 400 male immigrants in the Government immigration for a year as so serious an evil, as to require him to call the special attention of the Secretary of State to the subject, notwithstanding that in the ordinary immigration and emigration of the same period the excess of males over females who left the colony had been very large. This despatch was in our recollection when we decided on sending out to South Australia the female emigrants now complained of.

* *Vide* Papers presented by Command, 8 April 1853, pp. 205-231.

7. But it will be answered that the objection is not to single women generally, but to Irish single women who have not received instruction in domestic service. To this we must reply, as we have before replied, that young women of unimpeachable character, of the class of domestic servants, cannot be got to emigrate from England or Scotland, and that those even of the Irish who have been for any time trained in domestic service are not procurable in any large numbers. It is too notorious to need proof, that respectable young women accustomed to domestic service are in such demand in this country, and can command such wages and advantages, as to be little disposed to separate themselves from their friends and connections to take service in a distant colony. Upon this point we would beg to refer to the facts stated in our report of the 26th July 1852, which are as applicable to the present as to that time.

8. In conclusion we have only to add, that while we shall make every exertion to increase the number of English and Scotch emigrants to South Australia, we fear that it will not be possible to obtain such a number of them as to keep up the emigration to its present rate. For the moment this will be an advantage, as all accounts concur in stating that the labour market of South Australia is temporarily overstocked, while the necessaries of life are very dear. But when this temporary excess of labour has been absorbed, as no doubt it shortly will be, and the emigration continues necessarily limited, some complaint may arise on this ground which we think it right so far to anticipate and explain.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 8. —

No. 8
Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell.
12 February 1855.

(No. 4.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell.*

Sir, Downing-street, 12 February 1856.

No. 2, 25 June 1855, page 108
,, 5, 13 July ,, ,, 110
,, 20, 31 Aug. ,, ,, 116
,, 25, 24 Sept. ,, ,, 120

I HAVE had under my consideration your despatches of the numbers and dates stated in the margin, respecting the management of emigration to South Australia.

You will already have received a communication on some parts of the subject to which these papers relate, in the despatches* from my predecessors, No. 8, of the 12th of September last, and No. 15, of the 15th of October. But I thought it right to call for a report from the Emigration Commissioners upon several of your statements which reflected seriously on the conduct of the service entrusted

* pp. 142, 143.

to

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

24 January 1856.

to their charge, and I now enclose, for your information, a copy of the answer which I have received from the Commissioners.

The causes of the dissatisfaction felt by you may be summed up under three general heads, first, that the Commissioners had sent to the colony too many emigrants; secondly, that they had sent emigrants whose real destination was to other colonies; thirdly, that the female emigrants sent out by them were excessive in number and unsuitable in quality.

On the first point it must be borne in mind that great pressure is usually applied to induce the Commissioners to send out even more emigrants than can be readily procured, and that the more rapidly they can despatch emigrants the better, they have been taught to believe, that they would satisfy the colony. On the present occasion they have collected in their report repeated communications from the Colonial Government, urging them to the utmost activity, and some of them even alluding to a disposition of the public to seek for labour from Germany, from India, or from China, if it could not be more rapidly supplied from this country. I think that these communications amply prove that if circumstances may afterwards have produced a temporary inconvenience from the influx of immigrants, it is not fair to lay the responsibility upon the Board which endeavoured faithfully to execute the wishes of the local authorities.

With regard to the second point, it is enough for me to refer you to the elaborate returns in which the Commissioners have met the random assertions of immigrants in South Australia, who, after their arrival, may have found it convenient to state that they wished to proceed to other colonies.

The third point, viz., the supply of female emigrants, is the one of the highest permanent importance to the public interest. Having arrived so recently in Australia, you may perhaps not have been fully aware of those frightful evils which have long since convinced the inhabitants, that to include a large proportion of females in every assisted immigration, is essential to the social and moral welfare of the colonies. This is the great and paramount object to be secured. It might, no doubt, be more convenient if all of the women could be skilful domestic servants, and still more, it might save trouble if they were of such qualifications that they could obtain ready employment in the capital without the exertion of dispersing them into country districts; but I must remind you that employment of all kinds, and for all classes, has been very abundant of late in Great Britain, that there is nothing so peculiarly advantageous in the prevalent rates of wages in South Australia, as to induce people who are well off at home to forsake their homes and proceed to a very distant country; and that it is necessary, therefore, to consider not only what may be desirable on this subject, but also what is attainable. Your despatches contain evidence that the young women so much complained of, are in the main, healthy, strong, and of good character; and further, that when sent into the country districts of the colony (which surely have their fair claim to consideration) they have readily obtained employment. I have no doubt that under kind and considerate treatment, they will soon form very useful members of the community. I should, therefore, advise you well to deliberate before, by objecting too easily to females because they may not be accomplished domestic servants, you throw impediments in the way of a sufficiently large female immigration, and thereby run the risk of such disproportions between the sexes as have formerly been attended with evils that were a cause of shame to all right-minded persons.

With reference to one question adverted to in your despatches, I may state that there can be no doubt that all legitimate expenses of maintaining immigrants, on first arrival, and distributing them into districts where they can obtain employment, are fairly chargeable to immigration funds.

I have now reviewed the principal topics of your despatches on this subject, and whilst on the one hand you acted very properly in not hesitating to point out to me any evils which attracted your observation, I think that on a dispassionate examination of the Commissioners' report you will see that no blame is imputable to them, but that they have fairly and zealously conformed to the spirit of such directions as they had from the colony for their guidance.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Encl. in No. 8.

Sir, Emigration Office, 24 January 1856.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 3d instant, enclosing a further despatch from the Governor of South Australia, on the subject of the inconveniences created in that colony by the large number of single women, principally Irish, included in our emigration during the first eight months of 1855. As this question has formed the subject of several despatches from Sir R. G. MacDonnell, the effect of which is seriously to impugn the manner in which our duties have been performed, we trust that Mr. Labouchere will permit us to embrace the whole question in this report, even at the risk of repeating arguments and statements which have been before brought forward.

No. 25, 24 Sept. Page 120.

2. The charges brought against us by Sir R. G. MacDonnell are—

First. That the amount of our emigration generally (8,600 souls in eight months) would have been excessive in any year, and after the bad harvest of 1854 was especially calculated to produce embarrassment and expense, "which might and ought to have been foreseen."

Second. That the number sent out as female domestic servants was disproportionate to the wants of the colony.

Third. That the Irish, who formed the great bulk of them, were unsuitable.

Fourth. That we had been repeatedly warned by the immigration agent of their unsuitableness, and of the difficulty of procuring employment for them.

Fifth. In despatches* of 13th July and 31st August, Nos. 5 and 20, that we had sent to South Australia large numbers who desired to go to other colonies.

* pp. 110, 116.

3. The first charge, viz., that our emigration generally was excessive, especially after the bad harvest of 1854, and that we ought to have foreseen the embarrassment which it would produce, will be best met by adverting to the information at our command when that emigration was set on foot. What then was the information received in the course of 1854 from Sir H. Young, late Governor of South Australia, an officer, we need hardly observe, intimately acquainted with the circumstances of the colonies, and keenly alive to whatever would promote its well-being. In his despatch† of 30th March 1854, written, we presume, after the harvest of 1854, or at least when its results must have been known; he says, "The supply of labour in the colony continues very inadequate to the demand; day labourers are receiving from 9 *s.* to 11 *s.*; carpenters, masons, plasterers, bricklayers from 14 *s.* to 17 *s.* a day; and butchers and bakers from 2 *l.* to 3 *l.* a week, besides board and lodgings.—Buildings and other works estimated for towards the middle of last year, at what were then considered to be very ample amounts, are now found incapable of execution except at an advance, generally speaking, of not less than 50 per cent. on the original estimates."—"The inadequate supply of imported British labour is leading the public to consider of the expediency of encouraging an introduction of labour from Germany, China, and India."—"Our remittances for British labour have been large, and are likely, I trust, to continue so; but viewing the difficulties and delays which have been experienced in expending these funds under the existing Regulations, it is worthy of consideration whether the stream of emigration may not be made more copious and regular by conceding free passages without exacting any payment for outfit, or on any other account, and by relaxing in many cases the rules as to ages and sexes, thus facilitating the migration of families in instances where the numbers are such as to compensate for the apparent drawback, either of the advanced age of the parents, or in other cases, of the extreme youth of the children."—We append an extract of the whole of that part of this despatch which relates to the supply of labour, and we would request Mr. Labouchere's particular attention to it. That despatch was received at the Colonial Office on the 18th July 1854, and communicated to us on 6th September following.

† *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Session 1855, p. 52.

Sub-Enclosure 1.

4. With such a statement before us proceeding from such a source, we determined to increase our emigration during the months of November and December 1854, from three ships to four, or from about 900 to 1,200 souls a month. In reality we were able to despatch four ships only in the month of December, and the whole number of Government ships which sailed in 1854 for South Australia was 33, carrying 10,324 souls. That this emigration was not at the time considered excessive in the colony, may we think be assumed from the terms in which it is described by Mr. Acting Governor Finniss, in a despatch,‡ dated 7th April 1855. "The Government immigrants despatched by the Land and Emigration Commissioners," he says, "arrived in 30 vessels, at various periods of the year 1854, and were much needed, as from the want of labour during the early part of 1854, it was difficult to obtain contracts for the various public works which were on the estimates. This state of things gradually improved, and before the close of the year it became evident that all work for which provision had been made in the estimates might be safely and advantageously proceeded with." This despatch was received at the Colonial Office on the 21st of September last.

‡ Page 101.

Only one of the vessels despatched in December 1854 had apparently then arrived.

5. There was then, we think, ample justification in the statements of Sir H. Young for the rate to which we increased the emigration in the latter end of 1854, and sufficient proof in the despatch of Mr. Finniss, that up to April 1855 it had produced no other than a good result.

result. At all events it can scarcely be maintained, in the face of such reports, that the number sent out was so disproportionate as to involve its own condemnation, even taking into account the bad harvest of 1854, to which neither Sir H. Young nor Mr. Finniss allude.

6. In the meantime, as no intelligence reached us to contradict Sir H. Young's statements, as on the contrary the Immigration Agent's Report of 30th September 1854, which reached us in January 1855, stated that the rate of immigration for the quarter ending 30th September 1854 (amounting to 1,653 souls), "might be safely increased," and as the funds in our hands on account of emigration, which, if not employed, would be lying idle, were still large, we continued the emigration in 1855 at the same rate as in 1854. The result is, that there sailed for South Australia in 1855, 34 Government vessels, carrying 9,947 souls, being 377 less than in 1854. Since the receipt of Sir R. MacDonnell's despatch* of 25th June last, and the Immigration Agent's Report for the first quarter of 1855 (both of which reached us in September, after our arrangements to the end of November had been completed), we have very much reduced our rate of emigration.

* Page 108.

7. Secondly. Sir R. MacDonnell complains that the number sent out as female domestic servants was disproportionately large, in proof of which he observes that the whole number of female domestic servants in the colony did not, by the census of March last, exceed 4,000. We have not received the census returns, but we presume that the 4,000 above referred to includes none but servants employed in-doors in purely domestic duties. But a large proportion of those sent out by us, though describing themselves as "domestic servants," were young women accustomed to out-door labour as well as in-door, and who might perhaps have been more accurately described as "farm servants." For we must point out that our female emigration has never been confined exclusively to "domestic servants," properly so called; but that in all our terms and forms of application (which have been in the hands of the colonial authorities for years), young women "accustomed to farm service" have been placed among the most eligible classes, on the same level with domestic servants. We have no recollection of any objection having ever been made to this classification; on the contrary, the accounts which we have received from the colonies have led us to believe, that young women accustomed to out-of-door work, and to the comparative isolation of country life, must be of greater value than town-bred women in the scattered settlements and stations which abound in the Australian colonies. That they would not be so useful or acceptable to the inhabitants of Adelaide, we readily acknowledge; but we have not supposed that we were justified, in the administration of a fund to which all classes in the colony contribute, to conduct the emigration with reference to the convenience or advantage of one particular class.

8. Thirdly. Sir R. MacDonnell complains that the Irish who formed the great bulk of the female emigrants were unsuitable to the wants of the colonists; and—

9. Fourthly. That we were repeatedly warned of their unsuitableness by the Immigration Agent. We join these two charges together, as it would be scarcely possible without repetition to keep the answers distinct.

10. In dealing with these charges, it is necessary to premise that we have always understood it to be our first duty so to carry on our operations as to promote, not only the immediate and material interests of the colonists, but the permanent and moral interests of the colony. If we consulted the former only there can be little doubt that the most advantageous emigration would be one composed chiefly of adult males, with as small a proportion as possible of women and children. But it would be superfluous to allude to the evils attendant on an immigration in which the male sex largely preponderates, or to appeal to the fearful experience acquired on this subject in Australia itself. We believe we may leave it to the judgment of any impartial person, whether any temporary inconvenience or expense can for a moment be set in the balance against such evils.

11. In every unassisted emigration, and especially to so distant a country as Australia, the number of males will considerably preponderate. Accordingly, since the gold discoveries of 1852 gave an impulse to unassisted emigration to Australia, it has been our constant endeavour so to arrange our emigration as to counteract the tendency of the former to create a disparity in the sexes. The number of males and females who arrived in South Australia in Government ships, excluding those born on the voyage, were, as nearly as we can ascertain,

	Males.	Females.
In 1853	1,919	2,596
1854	3,276	5,324

Nevertheless, the whole immigration into the colony, including the above, amounted to,

	Males.	Females.
In 1853	about 15,918	5,341*
1854	10,036	7,222

And

* *Note.*—The returns for 1853 are incomplete; the return for the second quarter not having been sent home. The omission has been supplied by an estimate formed from the other three quarters of the year.

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And even, after deducting the emigration from the colony, the result was to leave an excess of males upon the immigration and emigration of,

In 1853 - - - - - - - - - -	3,438*
1854 - - - - - - - - - -	735

* *Vide* Note in preceding page.

Had it not been for the predominance of females in our emigration this excess would have been very largely increased. And a similar excess might have been expected in the emigration of 1855, unless similar means had been taken to avert it.

12. That such a result would have been no less unsatisfactory to the local Government than injurious to the colony, we felt entitled to assume, because in 1852 when, from peculiar circumstances, the number of our female emigrants fell slightly below that of the males, Sir H. Young lost no time in calling attention to the circumstance, although the emigration of males from the colony to Victoria was then in rapid progress. We have no reason to think that Sir H. Young overrated the importance of the matter, and it was with especial reference to his expressed views on this point, that we decided to introduce so large a proportion of females into our emigration.

13. In respect to the statement that the females sent out were unsuitable by reason of their ignorance as domestic servants, we must distinctly state, as we have repeatedly stated before, that it is, in our opinion, hopeless to expect that any number of trained domestic servants, especially from England and Scotland, can be obtained to proceed as emigrants to the colonies. Every one's experience must tell him that servants of this description, if of good character, are in such request in this country, and can obtain here such wages and advantages, as to leave them no inducement to separate themselves from their friends and connexions to seek service at the antipodes. It is notorious also, that there is no class of persons so stationary as this class, so much so that it is often difficult to get them to move even from one part of the United Kingdom to another. That there are not more English and Scotch than can find ready employment is shown by the larger number of Irish young women who fill the great majority of inferior situations of this description in the large towns of England and Scotland, where, from the difference of religion and habits, it may be assumed that English and Scotch servants would, if procurable, be preferred.

14. But if trained English and Scotch servants could not be obtained, the next best thing, as it appeared to us, was to send out young women, of whose respectability there could be no doubt, and of whose adaptability to domestic service, after a little teaching, we had reason to think well. We considered that young women taken, not as Sir R. MacDonnell throughout assumes from workhouses, but from rural districts in Ireland, and from families, and available at the worst as farm servants, would furnish the requisite material. That such had been the result in former cases the reports from the colonies sufficiently show. Thus in Sir W. Denison's despatch* from Van Diemen's Land, of 19th January 1852, will be found a report from Mr. Perry, secretary to the immigration association in Van Diemen's Land, to which we would solicit Mr. Labouchere's attention, in which he states that he had received the most gratifying accounts of the character and conduct of the young women (selected from Irish Unions) who had obtained situations in that colony, that although they had no previous knowledge of domestic service, "experience had proved that very many of these girls are likely to make most valuable servants, particularly in those instances where their mistresses have taken the trouble to instruct them in their new duties;" that "their conduct has been so good as to give rise to many more applications for them than could be complied with;" and that "their arrival had been a great public good." In new South Wales, likewise, Mr. Savage, the health officer of Port Jackson, in his evidence before a Committee of the Legislative Council in 1852, stated, that the Irish orphan girls, who at first had been disliked, "are now among the choice servants in the first houses in the colony;" that "they are regarded as at least equally as good as those who came out professing to be servants," and that a few thousands more "would be the greatest boon" the colony could "receive." And lastly, we appeal to the description given of the women now in question by Sir R. MacDonnell himself, in a circular addressed to the chairmen of district councils, which forms an enclosure to his present despatch. "Many of those females," he says, "are highly respectable and well qualified as in-door domestic servants, but the majority of them have not yet acquired experience sufficient to render them immediately useful in that capacity. They are, however, strong, healthy, and willing to be employed as farm servants, having most of them already served in that capacity."

* *Vide* Papers presented by Command, 8 April 1853, page 254.

15. This opinion of their capacity (which exactly coincides with our own expectations) is corroborated by a letter which has just fallen under our notice, addressed by Mr. Gleeson, a magistrate of "Clare" in South Australia, to the superintendent of the female immigrants depôt. "About 50," he writes, "of the girls sent here are now in comfortable situations, and I am happy to say that I hear them all well spoken of." This satisfactory disposal of no less than 50 girls at a single country depôt, leads us to hope that the difficulty of placing them out may be found less insuperable, now that the colonial government has taken steps for dispersing them through the country, instead of retaining them in a body at Adelaide, to wait until the distant colonists had opportunities of procuring them from thence.

16. And before leaving this part of the subject, we desire to remind Mr. Labouchere that the inability of South Australia during the year 1855 to absorb the usual amount of immigration is admitted, or rather urged, by the Governor, and is shown by the fact, that at the date of his last despatch 400 males were receiving support from the Government. The

same

same causes, of course, account, in a great measure, for the difficulty of finding employment for female farm servants.

17. In respect to our alleged neglect of repeated warnings in the immigration agent's quarterly reports,* and especially in those of March and June 1854, which Sir R. MacDonnell describes as "without a parallel in colonial history," it is necessary to state exactly the nature of the warnings referred to. In the "answers to queries" in the report of March 1854 the immigration agent states, that "though the young women imported have been numerous, they have not been of that class chiefly in demand. What is chiefly wanted in the women is, that they should have been previously accustomed to respectable domestic service, whereas those latterly sent have been chiefly young women accustomed to the roughest kind of farm work." In the body of the report the same remark is made nearly verbatim, with the addition, that "there is at present a very great demand for domestic servants of a class superior to those who are generally forwarded to this colony." In the report for June 1854 the same remark as in March is repeated in the "answers to queries" almost in the same words, but it is added, "there is the greatest difficulty in finding employment for the class of young women who are sent here." In the report† for September 1854 there is no general opinion expressed on the subject, although it is stated that the young women sent by two ships, which are named, were not suited to the wants of the colonists, and that the greatest difficulty was experienced in procuring employment for such persons. In the report‡ for December 1854, which did not reach us till June last, the difficulty of procuring situations for Irish females is again insisted on, and the immigration agent states, that the superintendent of the depôt has suggested to him that we should be recommended to discontinue sending them. At the date of our receipt of this report our arrangements for the months of June and July, and part of August, were necessarily already made.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Session 1855, pp. 53. 57.

† Page 90.

‡ Page 95.

18. The reports of the immigration agent are not made to us but to the Governor of the colony, and are transmitted by him to the Secretary of State. In all matters of mere detail we should always, without hesitation, avail ourselves of the information contained in such reports, and act upon it; but in matters involving general principles or questions of special importance, it has been the custom of the Governor, in transmitting the agent's report, to express his own opinion upon it, and to state the course which he would recommend for adoption.

19. The question as to the proportion of female to male emigration, even abstractedly considered, is certainly one of principle, and of primary importance; and the result has shown, that, in South Australia, it was even more critical than in the other Australian colonies. Yet, in none of the despatches transmitting the reports above referred to, is a single syllable said, to show the view taken by the Officer then administering the Government, or even to direct attention to the immigration agent's remarks. We confess that, looking to the qualified terms in which the agent's remarks were couched, and the entire absence of observation from the Governor, remembering, too, that the Government had not hitherto exhausted the obvious expedient of dispersing the young women among the localities in which they were likely to be wanted, we did not understand them, as it appears we were expected to do, as meaning that it would be better to send no single women at all, except those in families, than to send Irish; nor that the number sent, irrespective of their origin, was beyond the resources of the colony. And looking at those remarks, even now, by the lights derived from subsequent events, we do not think they bear that interpretation. Indeed, it will be observed, that in transmitting a subsequent report, Mr. Finniss expressly guards himself (despatch No. 35,* May 12, 1855), against being understood to prescribe a diminution of female emigration. It was, therefore, with equal surprise and regret that we learned, after Sir R. MacDonnell's arrival, the extent of the difficulty which had arisen. Our regret is the greater because, from the nature of emigration, it is impossible to make a sudden and abrupt change in the mode of conducting it, or to disappoint the expectations held out, or break the promises made, to persons in the class of life from which emigrants are taken. It may, therefore, appear that a mistaken policy has been allowed to continue, even after the mistake has been pointed out, merely because it has been necessary, before finally arresting it, to work off obligations contracted before.

* Page 103.

20. Fifthly. Sir R. MacDonnell states, in his despatches† of 13th July, No. 5, and 31st August, No. 20, that a large proportion of the female emigrants arriving in South Australia, had applied to be sent to other colonies; and in his despatch, No. 20, he encloses a nominal list of female Irish emigrants, amounting to 564, of whom he states that only 286, or little more than one-half, had applied to be sent there. These numbers should have been 565 and 291 respectively, leaving 274 as the number who are said to have been sent wrongfully to South Australia.

† pp. 110. 116.

21. We feel sincerely obliged to Sir R. MacDonnell, for having stated this charge so clearly and precisely as to enable us distinctly to meet it. We now enclose six lists*, containing the names of the whole 274 who allege that they applied for other colonies. In the first list, comprising 150, are included the names of those who are shown, by documents in this office, to have filled up forms of application for South Australia.

List No. 2, comprises the names of 18, who having originally applied for other colonies, are shown by our correspondence to have afterwards changed their applications to South Australia, either to accompany relatives or friends, or to obtain an earlier passage.

* These lists being very voluminous are not printed.

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List No. 3 contains 56 names, which appear in Sir R. MacDonnell's list, but whichdo not appear in the lists of the ships by which they are said to have gone out, or in any other documents in this office.

List No. 4, contains the names of three persons who applied for "Australia" generally, and expressing no preference for any particular colony, were sent to South Australia.

List No. 5, contains the names of two persons said to have arrived in the "Hamlet" and "Godfrey," ships not chartered by us.

List No. 6, contains the names of 45 persons, who originally applied for other colonies, but were subsequently transferred to South Australia, under arrangements which, at this distance of time, we have been unable to trace, but which probably were intended to secure them an earlier passage than they would otherwise have received. It is necessary to explain that emigrants, though continually warned not to do so, are very apt, as soon as their applications for passages are accepted, to throw themselves out of work, under the idea that passages can be found for them immediately. This, when emigration was in rapid progress, was often impossible, especially to Victoria, and the emigrants would then urge us to give them a passage to some other of the Australian colonies, provided only it was an early one. Sometimes, also, emigrants who have been left over from a previous ship (for we are always obliged, in summoning, to make an allowance for defaulters), will prefer to change their colony rather than to be delayed a long time in the depôt, and we always consider it our duty, in the interest of the colonies, to give them the option of doing so, if we can. We have no doubt that the 48 included in list No. 6, are to be accounted for in one of these ways, although we are now unable to trace the circumstances. We state in the broadest and most distinct terms that we can use, that we have never, knowingly sent an emigrant, or entrapped an emigrant to go to a colony to which he or she was unwilling to proceed.

22. There is, no doubt, great ignorance prevailing among the labouring classes, in respect to Australia, and they are apt to confound the colonies *inter se*, and to suppose that there are easy communications between them. But what we can do to prevent mistakes, we do. Thus the name of the colony is printed at the head of the Application Form; it is repeated in the Approval Circular, and again in the Embarkation Order; so that the emigrant has it placed before him in three successive documents which require his action, and which we can hardly suppose he does not read, or, if illiterate, does not have read to him. We scarcely know what further precaution we can take to ensure his knowing to what colony he is to proceed.

23. But we must add, that we are not disposed to attach the credit which Sir R. MacDonnell does to the statements made by the young women in question. He can hardly have had as much experience as we have of the extreme facility with which persons of this class adapt their assertions to what they consider their interest. The continual frauds attempted upon us, and the unhesitating falsehoods by which they are often maintained, give us but a low opinion of the truthfulness of persons of this description. Even in the present case, the fact that there are 56 names in the list which cannot be traced in our books, shows either that the persons who bear those names had gone out fraudulently under other names, or, which is more likely, that they had not gone out at all in our ships, or had gone out at a remote date, and had adopted the name of a recent ship to enable them to get an asylum in the depôt. In like manner, we believe that many more who said they had applied for other colonies than South Australia, did so merely because finding employment slack in that colony, they expected by such a statement, to get forwarded elsewhere.

24. Having now gone through the several charges preferred against us, it remains to notice the question raised by Sir R. MacDonnell as to the mode of defraying the expense incurred by this immigration. He states, that the expenses incurred for immigrants after disembarkation, instead of being less than 300 *l.*, "as was the case last year" (1854), will, this year, range between 20,000 *l.* and 25,000 *l.* From the tone of the despatch it might be inferred that an overwhelming proportion of this expense was caused by the disproportionate number of women sent out. But we must point out that, as the single females who arrived in Government ships in 1854, amounted to 2,099, and as those who had arrived in 1855, up to the date of his despatch, amounted only to 2,800, being an increase of 701, it is impossible to explain this vast increase of expense by a simple reference to this portion of the emigration, even after allowing for any estimate which might be formed of future arrivals. The cause is probably to be found in the distress arising from a deficient harvest in 1854, and the consequent general slackness of employment, which Sir R. MacDonnell thinks we ought to have foreseen; but which, as we have shown, was not foreseen by the most competent persons on the spot.

25. Without, however, discussing this point, which as the emigration will not, and could not be renewed at its former rate, is now comparatively unimportant, we beg to express our concurrence in Sir R. MacDonnell's recommendation, that the expenses incurred in maintaining and distributing the emigrants should be defrayed out of the moiety of the land fund appropriated to purposes of emigration. We conceive that the expense of maintaining and distributing the people on their first arrival in the colony, is just as much one of the incidents of emigration as the expense of collecting and maintaining them in this country before their departure. Even, therefore, if the Land Sales Act still remained in force, we should consider this as a legitimate application of the emigration moiety of the land

land fund; but as the Act has now been repealed, and the appropriation of the proceeds of land sales given up to the respective colonies, we cannot see any ground which would make it necessary for the Secretary of State to interfere to prevent the payment of these expenses and out of that fund.

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We have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.
Frederic Rogers.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 8.

EXTRACT from Despatch of Sir *H. Young* to Duke of *Newcastle*, dated 30 March 1854.

THE SUPPLY OF LABOUR.

"THE supply of labour in the colony continues very inadequate to the demand.

"Day labourers are receiving from 9*s.* to 11*s.*; carpenters, masons, plasterers, bricklayers, from 14*s.* to 17*s.* a day; and the butchers and bakers from 2*l.* to 3*l.* a week, besides board and lodging.

"Buildings and other works estimated for towards the middle of last year at what were then considered to be very ample amounts, are now found incapable of execution, except at an advance, generally speaking, of not less than fifty per cent. on the original estimates. Contractors are unwilling to tender for work requiring any extended period for its accomplishment, because of the uncertainty of the supply and price of labour; and calls for public tenders are so ineffectual to secure competition that in the majority of cases they are useless. The profits of investments in general continue, however, to range proportionately high. There is, too, not only a general expectation that whilst the productiveness of the neighbouring gold fields continues without much perceptible decrease, profits and wages will at least maintain their present rates, but also that gold in larger quantities than hitherto may at any moment be brought to light in this colony—the total number of licenses issued in 1853 at Echunga being 576—and that, under all the circumstances, it is rather expedient to submit to the present exorbitant price of labour than to postpone operations on the calculation that the supply of labour for ordinary industrial pursuits can be made copious enough to become cheaper within any moderate period of time. The inadequate supply of imported British labour is leading the public to consider of the expediency of encouraging an introduction of labour from Germany, China, and India. At present the land fund is applicable under the Imperial Act of Parliament regulating this revenue to the passage of British emigrants only, and under the local appropriation to which the fund is about to be devolved, a preference would always be entertained for British labour; yet should the existing scarcity of it continue, it will probably be considered by the local legislature not objectionable to expend some of the fund on the introduction of Germans, of whom there are already in the colony about 8,000. The German emigration has been hitherto undertaken by private enterprise, and in very many cases in an expectation that the emigrant would gradually repay his passage-money. This expectation has not generally been realised; nevertheless to the public the migration of Germans has proved highly satisfactory. The introduction of races so alien to Europeans as Chinese and coolies will never, I trust, be promoted by a grant of public money. In small numbers they would no doubt be useful as shepherds, herdsmen, gardeners and domestic servants, and in these capacities would quickly make money, and raise themselves into the condition of hucksters, shopkeepers, and petty tradesmen; but the private interests thus temporarily benefited can be no compensation for the permanent disadvantage of detracting from the exclusively Anglo-Saxon character of the population, which it is politic to maintain, as most conducive to the highest state of civilization, and necessarily includes sound morality, based on the Christian religion.

"Our remittances for British labour have been large, and are likely, I trust, to continue so; but viewing the difficulties and delays which have been experienced in expending these funds under the existing regulations, it is worthy of consideration whether the stream of emigration may not be made more copious and regular by conceding free passages, without exacting any payment for outfit or on any other account; and by relaxing in many cases the rules as to ages and sexes, thus facilitating the migration of families in instances where the numbers are such as to compensate for the apparent drawback either of the advanced age of the parents, or, in other cases, of the extreme youth of the children.

"The existing system of exacting advances is no doubt calculated to make the emigration fund go further; but the urgency of the demand for labour is so great, that these advances might not unwisely be charged to the emigration fund rather than to individuals.

"I would also urge that purchasers of land nominating emigrants, or delegating this nomination to their friends or relatives in Great Britain, may with great advantage to the colony be assisted in every possible manner by the agents of the Emigration Board at the different outports. I fear that the regulations established in England, and intended to check the departure from the colony of newly arrived emigrants, are of no practical utility; and I believe that this risk is not so great now as it was on the first opening of the Victoria gold fields.

"Our best policy is to confide in the attractiveness of South Australia, as sufficient either to retain the emigrant or to lead him to return again. However desirable it would be to keep

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keep the emigration fund replenished by deductions from wages to cover the cost of passage-money, experience is against the probability of such a system proving successful, except perhaps in the instance of the Highlanders recently introduced under peculiar obligations to private benefactors. Funds have been provided for several works of great public utility, and on these and on numerous objects of private enterprize, there is a wide field for the employment of additional imports of labour. The Torrens, Light, Gilbert, Wakefield, Broughton, and Rocky Rivers are to be supplied with eight public bridges, for which votes have been secured, and railways and electric telegraphs would be all the earlier constructed if the local labour market were in a more satisfactory condition.

"No better criterion, however, of the demand for labour can be cited than that of the large and regular sales of Crown lands.

"That labour is required to cultivate the land is illustrated in two instances which have recently come to my knowledge, where from fifty to seventy shillings were demanded per acre for the ploughing, harrowing, and sowing.

"The directors of the Burra Burra copper-mine, although they acutely feel the inadequacy of this supply of labour, nevertheless in their last annual report consider it particularly satisfactory at such a juncture that ground in shallow workings has been discovered, during the last six months, singularly pregnant with new ore; and they trust soon, by the arrival of additional miners, to be enabled to report on the lodes in the deep workings.

"In concluding this annual report on the general condition of South Australia, it would be inconvenient to add to its length by entering into any detailed explanations of plans projected for the further development of the constantly increasing prosperity of this community; it is sufficient on this occasion merely to refer to my despatches, Nos. 30 and 33 of the 25th to 27th March last, as containing propositions for connecting Adelaide with the other capital cities of Australia—Sydney and Melbourne—by railway, and for improving the pastoral communication between the colonies and the mother country.

"I have, &c.
(signed) "*H. E. F. Young.*"

— No. 9. —

(No. 5.)

No. 9. ght Hon. Labouchere to overnor Sir G. MacDonnell. February 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell.*

Sir, Downing-street, 18 February 1856.

WITH reference to my recent despatch No. 4,* of the 12th February, respecting the complaints which you had forwarded upon the conduct of emigration to South Australia, I enclose, for your information, the copy of a further report from the Emigration Commissioners, relating specially to the cases of personation detected on board of the ship "Velocity." You will perceive that this fraud is unfortunately easy to commit, and one which persons in the rank of emigrants appear not to have much scruple in practising, but that whenever it is detected in this country, it is prosecuted and punished.

* Page 144.

February 1856.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Sir, Emigration Office, 15 February 1856.

IN our report of the 24th ultimo, on the general subject of the recent Government immigration into South Australia, we did not advert to the cases of personation reported by the surgeon of the "Velocity," and brought under the notice of the Secretary of State in Sir R. MacDonnell's despatch† of 31st August, No. 20. It appeared to us more convenient not to encumber a necessarily long report with this additional matter.

† Page 116.

2. The surgeon of the "Velocity," Dr. Davies, states, that there were on board that ship, no less than 14 young women who had embarked under false names; and he gives it as his opinion, that the same thing occurs to the same extent in other ships, and that the practice is increasing. Mr. Moorehouse, the superintendent of the depôt, states, that after careful inquiry, he is informed that these deceptions arise from the sale of the embarkation orders by those to whom they have been granted, to others, who assume their names, whenever the grantees change their minds, or are otherwise prevented emigrating.

3. Sir R. MacDonell justly assumes that no one can be so interested as ourselves in obtaining full information respecting frauds of this description, and we think that Dr. Davies deserves credit for the manner in which he brought the subject under the notice of the local Government. We have long been aware that frauds are practised upon us, though we did not know their extent, and we regret to say, that we are unable to devise any means by which they

they can be effectually prevented. Whenever we discover them, we bring the offender to punishment under the 83d Section of the Passengers Act, and many persons have, in this manner, been punished with fine and imprisonment; but many more, no doubt, escape detection. The embarkation order is sold at the last moment after all the forms have been gone through, and if the parties to the fraud keep their own counsel, and there is no striking difference between the age of the person for whom the embarkation order is made out, and that of the person who presents it, there is scarcely a possibility of detecting the fraud. The usual means of identification among educated persons, by the hand-writing and signature, is unavailing in the case of the large majority of this class, who sign only with a cross. We shall enjoin on our agents still greater vigilance than before, in endeavouring to put down these frauds, but so long as they are regarded by this class of persons as altogether venial, we have little hope that we shall be able entirely to prevent them. Sir R. MacDonnell, will, we think, see in the frequency and unconcern with which frauds of this description are committed, an additional reason for not accepting too readily the statements of disappointed emigrants as to the expectations under which they had accepted passages to South Australia.

4. In the same letter in which Dr. Davies gave the list of those who had gone out under assumed names, he mentioned that a young woman "Anne Alvosa," had been sent on board direct from a penitentiary. As this statement was inconsistent with the document on which a passage had been given to this young woman, and as we should never knowingly accept any young woman under such circumstances, we called on Mr. Wilcocks, the agent, through whom she was brought forward, for an explanation of the circumstances. We now enclose a copy of his answer, and feel bound to add, that we do not consider it by any means satisfactory. We can understand that Mr. Wilcocks looking to the quarter from which the recommendation came, may not have felt the necessity of instituting so rigid an inquiry into the antecedents of this young woman as in ordinary cases; but we cannot acquit the ladies who brought forward and recommended this young woman; and we have thought it our duty to direct Mr. Wilcocks to express our regret to the ladies who signed Anne Alvosa's certificate, that they should have been induced by their feelings of compassion for that individual, to withhold from Mr. Wilcocks the information respecting her past career, which they must have known rendered her ineligible for a passage.

2 February 1856.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 9.

Sir, Plymouth, 2 February 1856.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, accompanied by an extract of a report of Mr. Davies, surgeon-superintendent of the "Velocity," relative to Anne Alvosa, an emigrant of my selection, by that ship, as well as a copy of the form of application of the said Anne Alvosa, and in reply to your inquiries I have to offer the following explanation.

I must premise that the first intimation I have received of Anne Alvosa ever being a resident in a penitentiary is contained in your letter above referred to. I cannot, at this distance of time, recollect to which of the ladies interested in Anne Alvosa the form of application was issued, my impression is it was Mrs. Adamson, or some one sent by her direction; the unquestionable position in society of the applicant for the form, prevented, in my opinion, the necessity for that special scrutiny which it is the practice of this office to make, especially in the case of single females; I therefore relied on the testimony of the householder's signing the form as sufficient evidence of the eligibility of the girl, to justify my signing the usual declaration. Since the receipt of your letter, I have called on and obtained interviews with Mrs. Captain Mundy, Mrs. Hawker, and Mrs. Captain Adamson. I may here remark, that these ladies are moving in the highest and best society of this neighbourhood, and would be incapable of stating that which they did not believe to be true. They all take a lively interest in the Female Penitentiary established here. It appears that Anne Alvosa, who is a native of Falmouth, was seduced under circumstances which became known to Mrs. Folkes, an excellent Quaker lady of that place, who immediately sought and obtained admission for the young woman into the Plymouth Penitentiary; there she underwent the usual probation, during which, having conducted herself in a most exemplary manner, she became a special favourite with the matron and the ladies' committee, who, after the expiration of the allotted probationary period, felt themselves justified in recommending her for service, and at the instance of Mrs. Adamson she was taken into service by her personal friend and neighbour Mrs. Mundy, to whom the whole antecedents of the girl were communicated. There she lived six months when, having communicated her wish to emigrate to Mrs. Adamson, that lady and others, among whom were Mrs. Folkes, contributed the funds for properly fitting her out for the voyage. Anne Alvosa never was upon the town, the interposition of Mrs. Folkes saved her from this degradation. It is a rule with the ladies managing the Penitentiary to disclose the whole circumstances, faults of character, temper, &c., relating to every young woman who goes into service from that institution to the person about to receive her,

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

after which they are silent on the subject; having placed the penitent in a position to gain a character, and a house of respectability to refer to, she is regarded as starting afresh in life, and in accordance with this rule it appears it was not deemed necessary to inform me of the fact.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James B. Wilcocks.*

P.S.—The matron of the penitentiary has received two letters from Anne Alvosa, one written at sea, and another some time after arrival in the colony, stating the place of service she had obtained, with amount of wages, and further, that she was respectably married. In each of these letters she testifies in very strong terms to the kindness of the captain and surgeon, most especially of the latter.

It is much to be regretted Mr. Davies does not in his report specifically name the kind of conduct in this girl which he contents himself with briefly designating as "bad."

— No. 10. —

(No. 13.)

No. 10. Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell. 5 April 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell.*

Sir, Downing-street, 5 April 1856.

I HAVE received your despatches Nos. 32 and 33,* of the 26th of October last, containing some further remarks relative to the emigrants sent out by the Emigration Commissioners.

* pp. 130, 131.

On this subject generally I have conveyed my views to you in my despatch No. 4,† of the 12th of February last, and I have nothing to add to them on the present occasion.

† Page 144.

But I feel bound, in justice to the Emigration Commissioners, to transmit to you the accompanying extract of a report from them, adverting to a statement made by the immigration agent at the close of his report. I cannot point out the impropriety of the course adopted by the agent in more fitting terms than those of the complaint justly made by the Commissioners, that he should have imputed to them not a mere error of judgment, but a deliberate neglect of duty, without alleging a single fact, or specifying a single case which would enable them to bring the justice of his statement to a proof. If there are reasons to complain of the unfitness of persons selected as emigrants, the proper course is to send a full statement of the names of the persons referred to, with such particulars as will admit of making the necessary inquiries in this country.

29 March 1856, Extract.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 10.

Enclosure in No. 10.

EXTRACT of Report from Emigration Commissioners to *H. Merivale*, Esq.; dated 29 March 1856.

"THERE is a statement made by the immigration agent at the close of his report which we cannot allow to pass unnoticed. He says, 'a great number of the married people who arrived during the quarter ought never to have been selected for emigration to this colony, and never would have been selected by those who have the interests of this colony at heart. Many of them are evidently physically incapacitated for active labour.'

"3. A charge couched in such general terms it is impossible to meet otherwise than by an equally general answer. But we think we are entitled to complain that the immigration officer should have pronounced an opinion imputing to us not an error of judgment, but a deliberate neglect of duty, without alleging a single fact, or specifying a single case which would enable us to bring its justice to a proof. We can only state in reply, that we are quite at a loss to conjecture what can have given rise to this opinion on the part of the immigration agent; that the married people were selected from the same classes as those sent to the other colonies, and in former years to South Australia, and that, heretofore, we have had no such complaint respecting them. And with respect to the allegation that they were physically incapacitated for active labour, we may point to the gratifying fact, that out of 2,071 adults embarked in the ships comprised in this return, only three died on the voyage,

voyage, being at the rate of about 1 in 700, or (assuming the voyage at three months) equal to a mortality of a little more than half per cent. per annum. We do not assert that this small mortality is an absolute proof of physical capacity among the 682 married people who formed part of the adults, but we think it is scarcely reconcileable with a general debility among them; and it is at the least conclusive evidence, that they, as well as the rest of the adults, were in good health when they embarked.

— No. 11. —

(No. 16.)

No. 11.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell, 18 April 1856.

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell.*

Sir, Downing-street, 18 April 1856.

I have received your despatch No. 36,* of the 17th of November last, enclosing the report of a Board of inquiry on the condition of the emigrants in the "Taymouth Castle," and suggesting the adoption of further precautions against the introduction of infectious diseases into passenger ships.

* Page 136.

It appears that small-pox broke out on the voyage amongst the crew, and that it is stated to have existed on board at the time of the embarkation of the emigrants at Plymouth; and it is suggested that in future, the Emigration Commissioners should insist on a medical examination of the crews of ships chartered by them, and require the sailors as well as the passengers to be vaccinated. I have to inform you, that the crews are already subjected, in all passenger ships, to a medical examination in the same way as the emigrants. It can scarcely be necessary, however, to point out to you, that small-pox and similar diseases are generally latent in a patient for several days before they break out, and that no examination can afford a perfect security against the misfortune of the occurrence of infectious disease after a ship has gone to sea.

The project of requiring all sailors, either to prove a previous vaccination, or else to be vaccinated before they sail, is not consistent with the habits of seafaring people, or with the exigencies of commerce.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 12. —

(No. 29.)

No. 12.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell, 18 June 1856.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell.*

Sir, Downing-street, 18 June 1856.

I have received your despatch No. 68,* of the 6th of March last, reporting that you had referred the question, whether immigration should be continued to South Australia, for the consideration of the Legislative Council, and enclosing copy of an address which had been presented to you in reply from that body, requesting that instructions might be given for the despatch of emigrants to the colony at the rate of one vessel a month, to consist of carefully selected agricultural labourers, farm servants, shepherds and miners.

* Page 139.

You also express an opinion, that a certain number of immigrants accustomed to work on railways and public roads might be sent out with advantage.

In reply I have to state, that it does not appear clearly whether the suggestion which you have thus made, which is in some degree at variance with the resolution of the Legislative Council, is intended as a mere expression of opinion or as a distinct recommendation to the Secretary of State.

It is very desirable that in matters of this nature there should be no ambiguity, and that the Secretary of State should know accurately what measures it is really intended that he should adopt on behalf of the colony.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

I have, accordingly, for the present, instructed the Emigration Commissioners to adhere to the terms of the resolution; and if it is desired that railway labourers should be sent out, I should wish to receive a distinct application from you to that effect.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 13. —

No. 13.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell.
8 July 1856.

(No. 32.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell.*

Sir, Downing-street, 8 July 1856.

WITH reference to the Acting Governor's despatch No. 37,* of the 15th of May 1855, reporting the loss of the ship "Nashwauk," with emigrants on board, while on her passage to Port Adelaide, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a report on the subject, which has been received from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, which will place you in possession of the steps taken by them for the recovery of the expenses incurred on this account by the local Government.

* Page 108.

25 June 1856.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 13.

Enclosure in No. 13.

Sir, Emigration Office, 25 June 1856.

WITH reference to your letter of the 29th of September last, enclosing a despatch from the Governor of South Australia relative to the loss of the "Nashwauk" off that coast, when under charter to this Board, we have the honour to report to the Secretary of State, for the Governor's information, that having communicated to the owners the opinion of the Trinity Board at Adelaide, namely, that the accident occurred through a want of judgment on the part of the master, as regards the proper course of the ship, we at the same time intimated that we felt bound to withhold from them the amount of expenses incurred by the local Government in the removal, care, and sustenance of the emigrants, which in the aggregate amounted to 853 *l.* 2 *s.* 4 *d.* This sum, with the assent of Mr. Bonus, has been deducted from the second moiety of the passage-money, and carried to the credit of the colonial funds in our hands. We would request that the Governor may be so informed.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.

T. F. Elliot, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Despatches from Governor Fitzgerald and Governor Kennedy.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Despatches from Governor Fitzgerald and Governor Kennedy.

— No. 1. —

No. 1. Governor Fitzgerald to Sir G. Grey. 14 November 1854.

(No. 124.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor *Fitzgerald* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Perth, 14 November 1854.

(Received, 13 February 1855.)

Sir, [(Answered, No. 4, 21 February 1855, p. 169.)

MAJOR BRUCE having resigned the office of emigration agent on his assuming the command of the military force in this colony in consequence of the departure of Lieutenant-colonel Reeves for head-quarters, I have the honour to report that I have appointed Mr. Symmons guardian of natives to discharge the duties of emigration agent, the salaries of both offices, by your predecessor's instructions, having lately been transferred from imperial to colonial funds.

2. This arrangement is made under the impression that Mr. Symmons' duties, as guardian of natives, occupied but a small portion of his time under present circumstances in this colony, and that consequently he could satisfactorily discharge the duties of both offices on the original salary given him as guardian of natives, and thus save the colony the salary of 150 *l.* a year that must have been paid to any other person appointed to this responsible office.

3. Mr. Clifton, superintendent of water police, whose connexion with the maritime duties of the port brings him in such constant communication with the emigrant vessels as well as other ships, I have appointed deputy emigration agent on a salary of 50 *l.* a year. This officer becomes particularly fitted to discharge this duty on such small remuneration, from his holding another appointment.

4. These salaries are provided for on the colonial estimates for 1854, and will be drawn from the 1st instant.

5. I have the honour to request your confirmation of these appointments.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Fitzgerald.*

— No. 2. —

No. 2. Governor Fitzgerald to Sir G. Grey. 20 November 1854.

(No. 132.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor *Fitzgerald* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Perth, 20 November 1854.

Sir, (Received, 13 February 1855.)

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival of the ship "Esmeralda" on the 14th of October, with 205 emigrants on board. Two births and only one death occurred during the voyage.

I am

I am happy to state that due attention appears to have been paid to the comfort of the passengers, who were all landed in good health, and will soon, I hope, be taken into private employment.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Fitzgerald.*

— No. 3. —

(No. 1.)

No. 3.
Governor Fitzgerald to Sir G. Grey.
1 January 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor *Fitzgerald* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Perth, 1 Jan. 1855.
(Received, 7 April 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 13, 18 April 1855, page 169.)

I HAVE the honour herewith to forward a copy of a letter received from the immigration agent representing the serious evils attendant on the introduction of boys into this colony from the Philanthropic Society's School at Red Hill, Reigate.

I have not before thought it necessary to bring this question under the notice of Her Majesty's Government, as I had been aware Mr. Sydney Turner had been recommended by the late immigration agent not to forward any more boys from the Red Hill School, and hoped that such advice would have been acted on.

The question, however, is one of so much importance, and the objections against the continued introduction of this class are so strong, that I now anxiously urge the necessity for prohibiting any further drafts of these boys being forwarded, as their presence in this colony, being a penal settlement, is not only productive of incalculable evil to themselves, but to the community at large.

I have, &c.
signed) *Charles Fitzgerald.*

Enclosure in No. 3.

Encl. in No. 3.

Sir, Perth, 4 December 1854.

I HAVE the honour to call the attention of his Excellency the Governor to the fact of the arrival on the 1st instant of the "Devonshire" bringing as immigrants six (6) boys from the Philanthropic Society's School at Red Hill, Reigate. Scarcely a vessel from England arrives at our port which does not bring an addition, however small, to the number of this class of immigrants, and I make no scruple in saying that in the present state of our colony none much more objectionable, in many respects, could be received. These objections refer principally, if not wholly, to the interests of the boys themselves, and it is therefore that I consider it necessary to call the attention of his Excellency, and through him that of the home authorities, to the following facts, which I urge as rendering highly inexpedient the continued transportation of this class of lads to our shores.

So long as Western Australia was not a convict colony, and that there existed a steady demand for that class of labour, the experiment of sending out juvenile immigrants met with even unlooked-for success. The lads were under the strict surveillance of a guardian expressly appointed, and could receive no contaminating examples from our free, respectable, and comparatively small population. Now, however, all this is changed, a convict population is rapidly outnumbering the original community; vice, whether artfully concealed or openly developed, is necessarily on the increase, and these lads sent out here from motives the most Christian and philanthropic, find themselves in a great degree irresponsible agents at an age when the passions are strong, and the mind ductile for impressions, either of good or evil; surrounded by, and in constant intimacy with a ticket-of-leave population, who will but too often find in these poor lads mere pliant tools and ready-made accomplices.

Moreover, in the present state of the labour market, the demand for this class of immigrants is slack, and the difficulty of obtaining employment is superadded to the objections already mentioned.

In these views of a very important subject, I am supported by the late immigration agent, Mr. Wittenoon, who communicated to Mr. Sidney Turner of the Red Hill School, Reigate, some months since (and, therefore, when our convict population was much less numerous) his objections to the further immigration of the boys in question.

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Having reasons to believe that his Excellency's ideas on this subject are in accordance with my own, I have but respectfully to urge that such representations may be made to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies as may cause a total cessation of the future transportation to our shores of this class of immigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Chas. Symmons*, Immigration Agent.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

— No. 4. —

No. 4.
Governor Fitzgerald to Sir G. Grey.
10 March 1855.

(No. 34.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor *Fitzgerald* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Perth, 10 March 1855.
(Received, 17 July 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 2, 25 January 1856, p. 173.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch,* No. 32, of the 10th of October 1854, transmitting a communication from Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners bearing upon the subject of emigration to this colony, as also a statement on the same subject by Mr. Dodd, who made one voyage to this colony as surgeon-superintendent of the immigrants by ship "Victory."

* *Vide* Parl. Paper, No. 42, Sess. 1855, page 70.

2. There can be no doubt the report of Mr. Dodd, if worthy of credence, is very discouraging, and as such, has I presume been submitted to your consideration, as sustaining the views of the Emigration Commissioners with regard to the continuance of Government emigration to this colony.

3. Mr. Dodd I have never seen, but from the inquiries I have caused to be made into his proceedings in this colony, I am not at all surprised that the immigrants by the "Victory" were more than usually disappointed, for so far from Mr. Dodd doing everything in his power (as I conceive was his duty), to cheer up persons usually so dejected as are all immigrants, he appears to have left nothing undone to deepen that dejection, which was no difficult matter, from the predisposition notorious among all classes of immigrants on first landing, to give way to despondency, whether from regret from the thoughts of having left their native land, and (in many instances), all they most value, or from disappointment at the prospects that present themselves for the future, I am unable to say, but such is the fact as now stated.

4. From the letter of the then emigration agent Lieutenant-colonel Bruce (which I do myself the honour to transmit), it appears that the master of the "Victory," and Mr. Dodd, were both much annoyed that I did not permit them to land the immigrants on their arrival, without waiting for the expiration of the 14 lay days, and thus at once relieve these gentlemen from all further trouble and responsibility, as also to put into the pockets of the owners of the vessel the cost of rationing 240 emigrants for a fortnight, by causing it to be charged to Her Majesty's Government a second time, which I declined to do.

13th January, Enclosure 1.

5. How far the circumstance of this unexpected detention on board may have influenced Mr. Dodd, when reporting his arrival to Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, I know not. * * * * *

6. His description of sending respectable females with a drunken ticket-of-leave man, on a rainy day, over sandy wastes and rocky deserts, to distances in the interior of from 100 to 200 miles, is so fully refuted by the emigration agent, in his letter, that I feel it almost a waste of time to do more than state, that the day was showery at intervals, but of that kind, that Mrs. Fitzgerald and most of the ladies of Perth rode four miles to the race course (on the same road the emigrants journey to Guildford, distant nine miles from Perth), and remained the greater part of the day unsheltered on horseback. I am therefore unable to see the hardship to the immigrants, under the circumstances as stated by the

the emigration agent, which had my full concurrence, a team being under engagement for the purpose at the rate of 5 *l.* per diem, that would not have waited another day, and must have been paid for, whether it was availed of or not, for sending these young women nine miles of their journey to the Toodyay district, 48 miles distant. I feel assured women of the same, and even of a superior class in England, such as farmer's wives, are not deterred by passing showers from making a journey of equal length in a much colder climate than this.

7. I have also been given to understand, that on the arrival of the emigrant girls at the Home, the matron objected to permit Mr. Dodd's chest to come within the gate; why this chest should have been brought there by one of the emigrant women is not obvious, but its rejection or some other cause, does not appear to have disposed this gentleman to have viewed the establishment with a favourable impression, as when visiting it on the same day, and standing under the verandah which surrounds the front cottage, which has a small flower plot between it and the front enclosure wall, Mr. Dodd exclaimed in a loud voice "this place is not fit for a pig to live in; I'll take care there are no more emigrants sent to this colony; there is not a person in Perth able to keep a servant." The "Home," an institution devoted exclusively for the abode of single emigrant women of good character when out of place, I did not expect to hear thus spoken of; especially as it was the residence of one of the most respectable tradesmen in the colony, until purchased by the Government for the sum of 300 *l.*, and upon which a further sum of 1,000 *l.* has been laid out in adding increased accommodation, washhouse, pumps, and washing places for the girls; the whole being enclosed by a stone wall eight feet high, which excludes it from all communication from without.

8. This "Home" is visited once a week by Mrs. Fitzgerald, and is in charge of a very respectable matron, with an assistant, and a nurse, in charge of a comfortable infirmary, which has been among the additions made by the Government for sick females, until the new hospital is completed. In short the whole range of building is as well adapted, neat and clean, as could be expected, with a considerable amount of room, as is shown by the enclosed return from the Office of Works. And when further accommodation is required in the building, it is the intention of Government to meet the increased immigration that, sooner or later, it is hoped will reach the colony, whether by the aid of Parliament or from colonial resources.

Enclosure 2.

9. In having thus shown, as I hope, the inaccuracies in which Mr. Dodd has indulged, I of course have no wish to limit the extent of credence Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners may wish to attach to his evidence, corroborated, as they appear to think, by the local press. It is, however, a remarkable fact that the "Victory" sailed from this colony on the 26th of April, the very day on which the letter of "Fairplay" appeared in the "Inquirer," passing strictures upon the conduct of the emigration agent, nothing was therefore more easy for Mr. Dodd than to have contributed the letter in question; for had it been the vilest calumny, short of an actual libel, the press in this colony, I regret to say, are always ready to lend their columns to such effusions, especially when they apply to the measures of Government. And in proof of the value to be attached to such, I herewith forward numbers of the two papers then published, contradicting the statements made by the surgeon of the "Victory," as well as those which appeared in the letters in their own columns.

"Inquirer," 26 April 1854.

10. Both the immigration agents deny, in the most positive manner, ever having told Mr. Dodd that the colony did not want immigrants, and that the Government would give 5*l.* a-head to get rid of them.

11. Adverting to the suggestions of Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners to discontinue emigration for the present to this colony, I confess myself totally unprepared for such a recommendation, in the face of a pledge given to this colony on its first being made a penal one, that if Parliament could be prevailed upon to grant the necessary aid equal numbers of free immigrants to those of the bond, would be sent to Western Australia, keeping in view a due proportion of the sexes.

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12. I am also bound to declare the grounds upon which the Emigration Commissioners make this recommendation to be in my opinion untenable, notwithstanding it is, no doubt, correct that the limited community of Western Australia have not hitherto absorbed into private service a ship load of emigrants with the same rapidity as the larger and richer communities of the other Australian colonies, where it must be borne in mind there is no competition in the labour market by ticket-of-leave men against the emigrants, as in this colony: it is gratifying, however, to be able to state, in the face of such difficulties, that the emigrants who come to this colony, sooner or later obtain private service, and are doing well, and during their stay awaiting such, they are in all probability as well housed and as well fed, and quite as comfortably situated, as were the very greater part of them before embarkation, notwithstanding their general assertion of having left a comfortable home, with incessant employment.

13. The men, after being eight or ten days to look about them for employment, are made to give the Government their labour, while their wives have only their children to mind, who are invariably sent to the Government schools.

14. Under all these circumstances, I am unable to see the hardship imposed on these emigrants while remaining on the hands of the Government, but I allow the necessary cost of their support falls heavily on the colony, if it is made to bear it wholly, which I sincerely hope will not be the case. On this subject I shall have the honour to address you in a separate despatch.

15. The Emigration Commissioners appear to think, that only seventy of the emigrants per "Victory" having gone off the hands of Government in a month, is proof sufficient of the limited requirements of the colony, as regards immigration; I am unable to concur in this conclusion, as under the circumstances of the colony, I am quite satisfied if eighty to one hundred immigrants are absorbed monthly. In short, I think about 1,000*l.* a year is the utmost we could require, while so many conditional pardon and ticket-of-leave men are thrown into the labour market.

16. As regards the emigrants per "Victory," we have not one on hand, and many of the young women are comfortably married and settled down, having, I feel assured, very different feelings with regard to Western Australia to those expressed by Mr. Dodd on their behalf. Of the emigrants per "Esmeralda" also, not one remains on the hands of Government, and several of them are employed as mechanics in the construction of the new gaol; so that at this moment, with the exception of one girl, a confirmed lunatic in the asylum, two of feeble intellects in the "Home," there are but five or six of somewhat delicate health out of service, but who will obtain it so soon as recovered. I therefore anxiously look forward to the arrival of another emigrant vessel.

17. The limitations as to the class of emigrants to be sent to this colony, I regret much should for a moment create a difficulty as regards our wants to the Emigration Commissioners; my only motives in making them were those of charity and humanity, as persons with large young families, of the labouring class, looking at the high cost of every necessary of life, must have great difficulty in obtaining employment sufficiently remunerative to enable them to support their families. In like manner, those with feeble health and intellects had better remain at home. My last and only other requirement was, as far as possible, for agricultural labourers; but in soliciting for them, I merely meant to point out the class the most desirable, as I had before shown the most objectionable, but with small hope that the Commissioners would be able to fully carry out my requests.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Fitzgerald.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 4.

Sir, Perth, 30 January 1855.

I HAVE the honour to return herewith the despatch upon the subject of immigration to this colony, transmitted with your letter of the 17th instant, and with reference thereto I beg to offer the following observations.

With respect to the immigrants per "Victory," the ship of which Mr. Dodd was surgeon, his Excellency will remember that a great outcry was raised, because they were not landed at once and brought upon Government rations, instead of being left on board until the expiration of the lay days during which the vessel was bound to provision them.

The master and agent of the vessel, supported in their views by Mr. Dodd, were the first to complain; and many other parties, believing the cost of maintenance on shore to be an imperial expenditure, joined in and swelled the clamour on the subject.

His Excellency will further remember, that from the tone and tenor of the animadversions passed upon the occasion, a person unacquainted with previous custom would have inferred that the detention of the people on board during the lay days was a novel measure, whereas it is known to those conversant with the matter such had always been the practice.

Mr. Dodd states that "the young women, many of them respectable girls, were treated most shamefully, sent off, some 100, others near 200 miles into the various districts to look for work, their luggage going in a waggon, themselves having to walk that distance over dreary wasts of sand and rock, under the guidance of a drunken convict, who, on being asked where he was going to take them, told them to h—ll. This occurred outside the female depôt, at six o'clock in the evening of a very wet day; no convicts could be treated worse."

With reference to the foregoing passage, I have only to say that the distances to which immigrants have ever been sent in this colony by land have not exceeded 60 miles, and that the particular batch of young women whose departure from hence Mr. Dodd has described in such extravagant language, were sent to Toodyay, which is 48 miles from this town.

I well remember the occasion: the day was very showery, yet not so wet as to prevent ladies from proceeding to and passing the day upon the race-course, it being one of the days of the races.

I waited twice upon the Governor that morning, to take his Excellency's pleasure regarding the despatch of the immigrants for Toodyay. The team had been engaged, and would have to be paid for, whether made use of or not. I asked the owner whether he would consent to wait till next day, and he replied not. His Excellency then resolved, seeing that the weather did not prevent the greater part of the ladies of Perth from attending the races four miles out of town, that the immigrant girls should start, and proceed that evening as far as Guildford, which is nine miles from hence.

The hire of teams forming expensive items in the transit of immigrants, and as all journeys have been performed by easy stages, it has been the practice to allow only a portion of a party to mount on the cart at a time, as is usual with the families of soldiers proceeding on line of march. Persons will always be found to whom it is a pleasure to carp at the arrangements of Government.

Accordingly Mr. Dodd found sympathisers, even as regards the mode of conveyance. Now, however, that it is decided the whole cost of immigration is to be borne by the colony after the immigrants are landed, it remains to be seen whether a more expensive mode of sending up people to the district depôt will be advocated, and whether advantage will not, as heretofore, be taken of the lay days.

The departure of the females alluded to by Mr. Dodd "under the guidance of a drunken convict," is at variance with fact.

Although I had been two or three times to the Female Home that day, I was engaged till late in the afternoon paying the gratuities to the office bearers of the "Victory," and therefore did not see the team start; my clerk, however, attended by my direction, and saw the party off for Toodyay between two and three, P. M., and not six, P. M., as represented by Mr. Dodd. Whether the driver of the team was a ticket-of-leave holder or a free man, I cannot from personal knowledge say, although I am assured he belonged to the latter class; but I am quite satisfied, whoever he may have been, that he was sober, otherwise my clerk would never have allowed the team to start under his charge.

Perhaps the best reply to this allegation is to be found in the fact, that out of the numerous parties of immigrants who have been thus sent up to the country hiring depôts, not one instance can be adduced of man, woman, or child having sustained insult or injury during their journey.

Indeed I might go further, and say, that the best refutation of Mr. Dodd's whole statement is to be drawn from the circumstance of nearly the whole of the girls in question being now married and settled down for life.

To collect and transmit for the information of the Emigration Commissioners the mythical sayings of a proverbially dissatisfied class, is about as edifying as it would be to report home what these people often say respecting those who were instrumental in sending them out. The common statement here is, that the emigrant left a good place and high wages, whilst some of these who allege that Melbourne, not Western Australia, was the land of their desire, do not hesitate to affirm that they were told by the emigration officers in England that the trip from "Perth to Melbourne was only 1 *l.* by the coach."

 Discontent

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Discontent is doubtless a prominent characteristic of all immigrants, especially on first landing, because they arrive with most exaggerated notions as regards the rate of wages; but this gradually softens down; and as the females are drafted into the interior, they readily get married, and then their hopes and fears acquire a new direction.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Bruce*, late Immigration Agent.

To the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

Encl. 2, in No. 4.

Enclosure 2, in No. 4.

Size of the Rooms at the Servants' Home.

	Ft.	*in.*		*Ft.*	*in.*
Front building—Dining Hall - - - -	20	6	by	15	6
Matron's sleeping-room - - -	15	6	by	9	3
Centre building - - - - - -	24	2	by	15	0
Washhouse and store - - - -	24	2	by	6	2
New brick building (ground-floor) - - -	24	9	by	15	2
Ditto (upper-floor, used as female infirmary)	24	9	by	15	2

Office of Works, 12 March 1855. *R. R. J.*, D. P. W.

—No. 5.—

No. 5. Governor Fitzgerald to Sir G. Grey. 16 March 1855.

(No. 35.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor *Fitzgerald* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Perth, 16 March 1855.
(Received, 17 July 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 2, 25 January 1856, page 173.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 27, of the 16th September 1854, and in expressing my readiness to carry out the instructions therein contained, directing that the Commissariat Chest should be reimbursed from colonial funds, the cost of flour imported by that department from Adelaide for immigration purposes, I would with great respect and no less anxiety draw your attention to Earl Grey's despatch,* No. 17, of the 4th of March 1851, forwarded for my guidance on this subject, by which you will perceive that in reply to my question on this very point of providing for the support of immigrants before obtaining private service, I was directed to charge the cost of their maintenance to the grant voted by Parliament for emigration to those colonies which received convicts, otherwise I should never have thought of instructing the Commissariat in this matter to the extent I did.

* *Vide* Parl. Papers, No. 347, Session 1851, Part II., page 131.

2. The practice of charging to Imperial funds the cost of maintaining the immigrants as above stated, is one I have invariably pursued, and by such means have been enabled to receive a much larger number of that class than could otherwise have been thought of if the whole burthen of their support had to be borne exclusively on landing by the yet very limited resources of the colony; if, however, that course is to be discontinued, it must naturally still more limit free immigration than before, and the colonists be deprived in a great degree of that (to them) most essential admixture, free immigration in proportion to the bond, which they assert has been promised to them by Her Majesty's Government; and the colony, otherwise, must in a few years become nothing more than a population of the worst criminals of the British empire, if Her Majesty's Government continue to send convicts in the ratio expected, without keeping in view the proportion of the free population.

3. Even at the present moment, of the age of 21 years and upwards, the bond exceed the free population; a state of things not to be thought of without alarm in a small community where the disparity of the sexes is so great.

4. Permit me, therefore, without I hope being thought to exceed the fair limits of my province, to suggest that Her Majesty's Government should set apart

apart one-fourth of the vote granted by Parliament for the purpose of supporting as before the immigrants after landing, to be aided by 1,000 *l.* from colonial funds, and limit the numbers sent out to the colony to the extent of three-fourths of the grant, by which arrangement the whole difficulty would be surmounted, and the Imperial grant allocated to the purposes intended by Parliament.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Fitzgerald.*

—No. 6.—

(No. 50.)

No. 6. Governor Fitzgerald to Sir G. Grey. 3 May 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor *Fitzgerald* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Perth, 3 May 1855.
(Received, 6 September 1855.)
(Answered, No. 13, 12 October 1855, page 172.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival of the immigrant ship "Berkshire," on the 14th of March last, with 238 souls on board.

2. The immigration officer on inspection found the vessel in a clean and most satisfactory condition, and the surgeon-superintendent reported favourably of the general conduct of the immigrants during the voyage, and no complaint was preferred by them against either the surgeon or the master.

3. The immigrants, as a body, appear to be a well-selected and useful class, and when it is considered the great distance many of the settlers have to travel before they can reach the depôt, a large number have received employment since their arrival, 185 having gone into private service.

4. I would particularly request that you will be pleased to bring under the notice of Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, that the immigrants expressed much disappointment at not receiving back the certificates of character, which they unanimously state they forwarded to the Commissioners before leaving home, so that on all future occasions, where such is possible, they may be returned, inasmuch as these certificates of capability and good character possess much value in a foreign country, and greatly facilitate the immigrants in obtaining employment after arrival.

5. I would further observe, no agreements have been received with these immigrants similar to those per the "Esmeralda," and which they state were signed by them prior to their departure, it here becomes my duty to remark, that in this colony there is no law empowering an arrest for debt, which I apprehend is the only construction the agreement admits of, if it is to be considered a debt due to the colony, and it therefore becomes a matter of impossibility to enforce the payment of the amounts which may be due by the immigrants, whose intention of departure is not known to the Government until he is actually found on board ship.

Herewith I forward the opinion of the Advocate-general which I have received on this question, and request this Government may be instructed as to the manner in which the terms of this agreement can be legally carried out.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Fitzgerald.*

Enclosure in No. 6.

Encl. in No. 6

CASE.

THE opinion of the Advocate-general is requested as to whether there is any law at present in force in this colony enabling the Government to enforce the fulfilment of the agreement entered into in England by parties emigrating to the colony.

An agreement signed by one of the emigrants is forwarded herewith for the Advocate-general's information.

For the Colonial Secretary,
1 May 1855. (signed) *Charles Sholl.*

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

OPINION.

"If he quits before any proceedings be taken, there is no remedy. A judgment can be recovered if the emigrant have any goods. After judgment, a warrant of arrest can be got from the judge. But there are no means of punishing him, and none of preventing his flight. The agreement is a sheer farce."

(signed) *R. Birnie*, Advocate-General.

— No. 7. —

(No. 67.)

No. 7. Governor Fitzgerald to Sir G. Grey. 2 July 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor *Fitzgerald* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Perth, 2 July 1855.
(Received, 6 October 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 2, 25 January 1856, page 173.)

IN reply to your despatch * No. 46, of 8th December 1854, transmitting the complete vindication of Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners with reference to the selection of emigrants to this colony, I have the honour to state, that I never meant to impugn the conduct of those gentlemen, as I have always availed myself with pleasure of the opportunity, in more than one despatch, in speaking with satisfaction of the general fitness of the class of emigrants sent to Western Australia, with a very few exceptions; these exceptions I felt it my duty to bring under your notice more with regard to the agents at the outports than from any wish to complain, as I am too well aware of the difficulties Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners have to contend with, in the matter of selection, to justify any over-fastidiousness on the part of the colonial authorities.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Session 1855, page 73.

2. With reference to the emigrant Anderson, I can only regret the information I relied on as to the number of his family should be incorrect, as I find this man had only nine children in place of twelve; but as the Emigration Commissioners admit the poor man had no less than one son and four daughters under the age of fourteen, I still think it was a case that justified its being brought under notice.

3. With regard to your remark, that it is not reasonable Great Britain should be expected to send out able-bodied labourers, in order to maintain them afterwards, that is a principle I fully concur in, with reference to any other colony than a penal one, but as Western Australia, when being made a penal settlement, was led to expect that Parliament would be applied to, to continue to grant an annual sum for free emigration to those colonies receiving convicts, with the view of, in some degree, neutralizing the evil inflicted by the introduction of that class alone, it was not unreasonable, with such a promise, to anticipate the grant so obtained would be expended in carrying out this free emigration to this colony, even though the emigrants were not absorbed so rapidly into private service as in other colonies, arising, as Her Majesty's Government must be aware, from the large drafts of ticket-of-leave men that have been sent to this colony, contrary to all expectation, and who, from being generally without the encumbrances of family, leave the emigrant with little chance of contending in the labour market successfully, when not skilled in agricultural labour.

4. At the present moment the male bond exceed the free in this colony above the age of 21; if therefore free immigration be discontinued, in a very few years the very great majority of the population must be convicts, and of the worst class, from the recent decision of only transporting convicts with long sentences; the results of this system can have but the one tendency of doing away with the free character of this colony, which Her Majesty's Government stated, in despatch No. 66. of 2d June 1850, enclosing copy of a letter from Mr. Hawes to Mr. R. Nash, was not their intention.

5. On this ground I would earnestly hope that Parliament, in the fulfilment of faith, be applied to make the usual grant for free emigration to this colony, even though a large portion of the grant may be expended in their support until finding

finding private employment. In other words, this colony requires nursing for a very few years, when I trust it will be in a position no longer to require the aid of imperial funds for its immigration purposes, for the maintenance of the immigrants prior to absorption.

6. Adverting to what you conceive my error in converting a special into a general direction, I still labour under the conviction that had my application as regards the "Sophia" extended to future arrivals, the reply of Earl Grey would have been in spirit the same, so believing, I drew attention to his despatch.

7. In obedience to your instructions I have discontinued the office of emigration agent, and surrendered all premises rented by the local Government for immigration purposes; the only expense now borne by the local Government is a salaried matron, who has charge of the Female Home, to receive single girls on arrival, and when out of place without any fault of theirs: this building is also an asylum for children under the age of 10, when destitute or orphans; and an issuer of rations and keeper of the accounts for this department is also retained on a salary reduced from 36*l.* to 25*l.* a-year.

8. An officer also is appointed to enforce the provisions of the Passengers' Act, looking at the dangerous excess to which passengers would otherwise crowd every vessel proceeding to the gold fields; this officer Mr. Clifton, Superintendent of Water Police, receives a salary of 50*l.* a year for this service, and for which he is expected to act as immigration officer at the port of Fremantle.

9. These arrangements, as detailed, reduces the whole cost of the immigration department in this colony from 300*l.* to 55*l.* not including Mr. Clifton's salary as connected with the enforcement of the Passengers' Act.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Fitzgerald.*

— No. 8. —

(No. 104.)

No. 8.
Governor Kenne
to Lord J. Russe
18 October 185

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor *Kennedy* to Lord *John Russell.*

Government House, Perth, 18 October 1855.
(Received, 7 March 1856.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 13, 16 April 1856, p. 178.)

I have the honour to transmit a proclamation in reference to the Passengers' Act, which I have issued with the advice of my Executive Council, and for which I would beg your confirmation.

The proclamation heretofore in force computed the voyage from the port of Fremantle to any of the other Australian colonies as one uninterrupted voyage, instead of that which it invariably is, a coasting voyage, thus inflicting hardship and obstructing intercommunication.

I have, &c.
(signed *A. E. Kennedy.*

Enclosure in No. 8.

Encl. in No. 8

Proclamation.

By his Excellency *Arthur Edward Kennedy*, Esq., Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Territory of Western Australia and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

Whereas by an Act of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, passed in the 15th and 16th years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act to amend and consolidate the Laws relating to the Carriage of Passengers by Sea," it is amongst other things enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Governor of any of Her Majesty's possessions abroad, by any proclamation to be by him from time to time issued for that purpose (which shall take effect from the issuing thereof), to declare what shall be deemed necessary for the purposes of this Act, to be the length of the voyage of any ship carrying passengers from such possessions to any other place whatsoever, and to substitute for the articles of food and provisions specified in this Act, such other articles of food and provisions as he shall deem to be a full equivalent for the same; and also to declare what medicines, medical instruments, and other matters, shall be deemed necessary for the medical treatment of the passengers, during such colonial voyage. Now, therefore, I, Arthur Edward Kennedy, the Governor aforesaid,

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

aforesaid, by this my proclamation issued for that purpose, do declare that the following shall be the rule of computation by which the length of the voyage of any ship carrying passengers from Western Australia to the several places hereinafter enumerated shall be computed for the purposes of the said recited Act; that is to say,

From Western Australia.

To Great Britain or France	110 days.
To east coast of America south of Equator	80 „
To east coast of America north of Equator	110 „
To west coast of America south of Equator	90 „
To west coast of America north of Equator	110 „
To Mauritius and Bourbon	30 „
To Madagascar, west coast of Africa excluding Cape Colony	35 „
To Cape Colony	50 „
To Malay Archipelago, including Peninsula of Malacca	25 „
To ports in Indian Ocean, or Indian Peninsula, or ports in Chinese Seas south of China, and Phillipine Islands	40 „
To Ceylon	35 „
To China	60 „
To New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Feejee Islands, Society and Friendly Islands or Tahiti	70 „
To Sandwich Islands	80 „

And I do further declare, that in addition to, and irrespective of any provisions of their own which any passenger may have on board, the master of every such ship shall make to each passenger during the voyage, including the time of detention, if any, at any port or place before the termination of such voyage, the following issues of pure water, and sweet and wholesome provisions; (that is to say) of sweet and wholesome water, at least three quarts daily, and of provisions after the rate per week of two and a half pounds of bread or biscuit, not inferior in quality to what is usually called navy biscuit, one pound of wheaten flour, five pounds of oatmeal, two pounds of rice, two ounces and a half of tea, one pound of sugar: provided always, that such provisions shall be made in advance, and not less than twice in a week, the first of such issues to be made on the day of embarkation; provided also, that twenty-five pounds of sound potatoes may be substituted for the five pounds of oatmeal, or wheaten bread or flour may be substituted for the rice and oatmeal, weight for weight. And I do hereby further declare, that the medicines, medical instruments, and other matters necessary for the medical treatment of the passengers during any such voyage shall be as follows; namely,

Acid tartaric, 4 ozs.
Alumen, 4 ozs.
Ammon carb, 4 ozs.
Anthenid flou., 1 lb.
Antimon tart, ½ oz.
Argent nitra, 1 drm.
Cerat calaminæ, ½ lb.
Cerat resinæ, ¼ lb.
Confect aromat, 4 ozs.
Copabæ, 8 ozs.
Cupri sulphat, 1 oz.
Creta preperat, 1 lb.
Essentiæ menthi pif., ½ oz.
Emplast cantharid, ½ lb.
Emplast plumbi, 2 yds.
Emplast resinæ, 2 yds.
Gum acaciæ in pulv., ½ lb.
Hydrarg C. cretæ, 2 ozs.
Hydrarg chloridæ, 2 ozs.
Ipecacuanha in pulv., 4 ozs.
Liniment saponis, ½ lb.
Liquor vol. C. C., ½ lb.
Magnes subcarb, ½ lb.
Magnes sulphat, 4 lbs.
Ol. terebinth, 1 pt.
Ol. ricini opt. 2 pts.
Pil. hydrarg, ¼ lb.
Potass nitrat, 2 ozs.
Pulv. C. C. opiv, 3 ozs.
Pulv. ipecacuanha C., 4 ozs.
Pulv. jalapæ, 2 ozs.
Quinine disulfli, 1 oz.
Pulv. rhæi, 4 ozs.
Sennæ foliæ, 1 lb.
Sodæ carb., 4 ozs.
Sp. æther nitric, 4 ozs.
Tinct. camph. C., 4 ozs.
Tinct. opii, 2 ozs.
Tinct. scillæ, 2 ozs.
Mist antifsoree, 2 lbs.
Mrg. ceræ, 1 lb.
Vinum ipecacuanha, 4 ozs.
Zinc sulphat, 1 drm.
Chloride of zinc, 1 gal.
Tape, 2 pieces.
Flannel, 2 yds.
Flannel bandages, 3, 6 yds. each.
Calico ditto ditto.
Sponge, 1 oz.
Pint syringe, 1.
Ounce ditto, 1.
Mortars and pestle, Wedgewood, 1.
Bolus knife, 1.
Bolus till, 1.
Tin funnel, 1.
Grain, scales, and weights, 1 set.
Graduated measure, 2 ozs.
Graduated ditto, drop.
Large scissors, 1.
Set of splints.
Lancets, 2.
Lint, 1 lb.
Torse, 1 lb.
Pins, 1 oz.
Suspensory bandage, 2.
Spring truss, 1.
Oil-cloth, 1 yd.
Bougies, 1 set.

List

List of Instruments to be put on board of Vessels carrying a Surgeon.

One portable case of capital instruments; one pocket case of instruments.

Medical Comforts to be put on board.

Port wine, 1½ doz.	Scotch barley, 10 lbs.
Brandy, 1 doz.	Sago, 20 lbs.
Porter or ale, 5 doz.	Preserved meat, 50 lbs.
Tea, 6 lbs.	Vinegar, 5 gals.
Sugar, 30 lbs.	Lime juice, 50 gals.
Arrowroot, 6 lbs.	Sugar for ditto, 30 lbs.
Oatmeal, 25 lbs.	Soap, 25 lbs.

And, lastly, I do hereby rescind and annul all former proclamations, at any time, heretofore made in relation to the carriage of passengers by sea, from Western Australia aforesaid, under the provision of the Act hereinbefore first-mentioned.

Given under my hand and the public seal of the colony this 1st day of September 1855.

A. E. Kennedy, Governor, &c.

By his Excellency's command,

Fred. P. Barlee, Colonial Secretary.

God save the Queen!

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1.—

No. 1.
Right Hon. S. Herbert to Governor Fitzgerald, 21 February 1855.

(No. 4.)

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *Sidney Herbert* to Governor *Fitzgerald*.

Sir, Downing-street, 21 February 1855.

I have to acknowledge your despatch, No. 124,* of the 14th of November last, reporting the appointment of Mr. Symmons and of Mr. Clifton to act as immigration agents.

* Page 158.

I have to refer you, for your guidance, to the instructions † given to you by my predecessor on the 8th of December last, that you should put an end to the permanent appointments of immigration agents, and in case of the arrival hereafter of an emigrant ship, that you should provide for the performance of the requisite duties by naming some officer of the Government for the purpose, and remunerating him by a moderate fee per head on each emigrant landed.

† Vide House of Commons Paper, No. 42, of Session 1855, p. 73.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Sidney Herbert.*

— No. 2.—

No. 2.
Right Hon. Sir G. Grey to Governor Fitzgerald, 18 April 1855.

(No. 13.)

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey* Bart., to Governor *Fitzgerald*.

Sir, Downing-street, 18 April 1855.

I have received your despatch No. 1,* of the 1st of January last, pointing out the objections to the introduction of boys from the Philanthropic School at Red Hill

* Page 159.

Hill into Western Australia, and I enclose, for your information, the copy of a letter which I have caused to be addressed to the Rev. Sydney Turner, recommending him to abstain from sending any more boys to this destination.

18 April 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey.*

Encl. in No. 2.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Sir, Downing-street, 18 April 1855.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, for your information, the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Governor of Western Australia, and of its enclosure, pointing out the serious objections to the introduction of any more boys from the Philanthropic School at Red Hill into that colony, and explaining the injurious consequences which it may have on the boys themselves; and I am to suggest to you, that for the reasons which appear in these papers, it would be desirable to abstain from sending any more of the boys to this destination.

No. 1, 1 Jan. 1855, page 159.

I am, &c.
(signed) *John Ball.*

To the Rev. Sydney Turner.

—No. 3.—

No. 3. Right Hon. Sir G. Grey to Governor Fitzgerald. 25 April 1855.

(No. 15.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart., to Governor *Fitzgerald.*

Sir, Downing-street, 25 April 1855.

WITH reference to Earl Grey's despatch of the 24th July 1851,* stating that a sum of 40 *l.* was to be allowed on certain conditions to the surgeons of emigrant ships, to defray the expense of their return passage to this country; I have now to acquaint you, that as the price of passages has risen considerably since that date, it has been determined that the allowance in question shall be raised from 40*l.* to 60*l.*, subject to the same conditions as to good conduct and return as before; the same to be reduced whenever a fall in the price of passages from Australia shall take place.

Vide Papers presented by Command, 30 April 1852, p. 120.

This increase will take effect from the present date in order to include the claims of officers now on their way home.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey.*

—No. 4.—

No. 4. Right Hon. Lord J. Russell to Governor Kennedy. 1 May 1855.

(No. 3.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell* to Governor *Kennedy.*

Sir, Downing-street, 1 May 1855.

WITH reference to your predecessor's despatch No. 1,* of the 1st of January 1855, pointing out the objections attending the introduction into Western Australia of boys from the Philanthropic Farm School at Red Hill, and to my reply of the 18th instant, I transmit herewith, for your information, the copy of a letter from the resident chaplain, stating that no more boys will be sent out, and explaining the circumstances under which those who have already reached the colony were forwarded.

* Page 159.

23 April 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

Enclosure in No. 4.

Sir, Philanthropic Farm School, Redhill, 23 April 1855.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your communication* of the 18th instant, enclosing copy of Captain Fitzgerald's letter, relative to the boys sent to Swan River from this school.

* Page 170.

I had previously received a letter from Mr. Symmons, the immigration agent at Perth, giving me particulars of the conduct and circumstances of some of our lads in the colony, and recommending strongly that the colony, being a penal settlement, no more should be sent out.

In consequence of this letter, I at once annulled the arrangement I had made for six boys to proceed to Perth by the "Avalanche" this month, (the ship having fortunately been delayed), preferring to forfeit the deposit rather than risk the boys' welfare.

I will beg you to inform the Secretary of State of this, and also to assure him that no more of our lads will be allowed to go to Western Australia under present circumstances.

I think it right, however, to state, that I have not been guilty of so great an error as Captain Fitzgerald imputes to me, when he states that I have sent out the boys who have gone from the Farm School to Swan River, in opposition to Mr. Wittenoon's recommendation and opinion. The first party of boys sent from the Farm School left in June 1853. I was favoured with a letter from Mr. Wittenoon in the December following (dated September 29, 1853), a copy of which I enclose, in which he expresses no opinion himself as to the expediency of such boys being sent out, but informs me that Captain Bruce will write to me on the subject. I have not received any letter, however, from Captain Bruce, and have remained therefore in ignorance that there was any such strong official opinion on the propriety of the boys being allowed to emigrate to Swan River as now appears to be entertained.

On the other hand, I received shortly after (in February 1854), the extract from Mr. Wright's letter to Messrs. Felgate, of which I have the honour also to enclose a copy, dated October 21, 1853, and stating that "such boys would always find places" in the colony.

Probably Captain Fitzgerald and Mr. Wittenoon are under the impression that Captain Bruce wrote to me as intended, and advised that no more boys should come out. But I trust that the Secretary of State will acquit me of having persevered inconsiderately or improperly in sending the two parties who have left us since, as the two communications above-mentioned are the only ones that I have received.

I am happy to say that the number sent from Redhill has only been 27 in all; viz. seven in June 1853, eight in October 1853, six in May 1854, and six in August 1854.

I have, &c.

To H. Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Sydney Turner*,
Resident Chaplain.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in No. 4.

Dear Sir, Perth, Western Australia, 29 September 1853.

I HAVE the pleasure to inform you that the seven lads sent from the Philanthropic Society per "Devonshire," arrived here on the instant. They were all in good health, and, in reply to my inquiries, stated that they had been well and kindly treated during the voyage.

Having ceased to hold the situation of immigration agent, I handed the charge of these lads over to my successor, Captain Bruce, who has provided them all with places. Peto was sent to King George's Sound (distant from this 300 miles), where he represents he has an uncle residing. The others have been engaged mostly as general servants, at wages varying from 12*s.* to 1*l.* per month, with board and lodging. When they have become familiarised with colonial life they will be able to obtain higher wages, though with mere lads I have always considered the rate of wages as secondary to that of securing for them comfortable homes, where they will be properly treated and looked after.

Captain Bruce will write you as to the expediency of sending any further drafts of these lads. What with convicts and free emigrants, our labour market is now, I think, pretty well supplied for the present.

One of the lads, named John Birkett, begs me to request you to send out his baptismal certificate, which he states he gave you on entering the establishment.

Leaving Captain Bruce to enter more into details connected with the drafts of lads per "Devonshire,"

I remain, yours faithfully,

Rev. Sydney Turner,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *D. Wittenoon*,
Sheriff.

Sub-Enclosure 2 in No. 4.

EXTRACT from Letter, dated Swan River, 21 October 1853, from *Thomas Wright*, Esq. to Messrs. *Wm. Felgate & Co.*

(Per "Devonshire."

"The passengers are well pleasedwith the attention of Captain Dixon to their comfort. The boys, I believe, are all employed; they were quickly taken up. You will observe there is a charge in your account of 1 *l.* 7 *s.* for victualling them on landing.

"Such lads will always find places here."

— No. 5.—

No. 5. Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth to Governor Kennedy. 12 October 1855.

(No. 13.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *William Molesworth*, Bart., to Governor *Kennedy*.

Sir, Downing-street, 12 October 1855.

I HAVE received your predecessor's despatch No. 50,* of the 3d May, reporting the satisfactory condition in which the emigrant ship "Berkshire" had arrived in the colony, and offering some remarks upon the disappointment felt by the immigrants at not receiving back their certificates of character, which they had forwarded to the Emigration Commissioners with their applications for passages, together with further remarks on the absence of the agreements signed by the emigrants, binding them not to leave the colony.

* Page 165.

A copy of that despatch was, by my desire, communicated to the Commissioners, and I now transmit, for your information, a copy of their reply.

30 Sept. 1855.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. Molesworth.*

Encl. in No. 5.

Enclosure in No. 5.

Sir, Colonial Land and Emigration Office, 30 September 1855.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 18th instant, accompanied by a despatch from the Governor of Western Australia, reporting the arrival in that colony of the emigrant ship "Berkshire." The Governor states that the emigrants by this ship, whom he describes as a well selected and useful class, expressed disappointment at not receiving back the certificates of character which they had forwarded to us with their applications for passages; and he also observes, that the engagements not to leave the colony, which had been sent out in the case of the emigrants by the "Esmeralda," were not sent out in the present case.

2. In respect to the certificates of character, we have to state that it is our practice to return to applicants, whom we accept, their certificates of marriage or baptism, but certificates of character we retain, in case any question should arise on the arrival of the emigrants in the colony. It happens from time to time that persons, to whom passages have been granted, misconduct themselves on their voyage or on arrival, and thus throw doubt on the care exercised in their selection. It is, then, important for us to show that we took whatever precautions were in our power to guard against improper selections, which can be done in no way so effectually as by reference to the certificates of character furnished at the time.

3. In regard to the agreements not to quit the colony, we beg to state, that they were not forwarded with the "Berkshire," because we were aware that in Western Australia, where there was no special law to enforce them they would, in reality, be of no use. These agreements were originally required at the suggestion of the colonial authorities, although we had ourselves no faith in their efficacy, and they have since been discontinued in the case of all the colonies, also at the suggestion of the colonial authorities, who have satisfied themselves that they cannot in practice be enforced.

We have, &c.

T. F. Elliot, Esq. &c. &c. &.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

— No. 6. —

(No. 2.)

No. 6.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Kennedy.
25 January 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor *Kennedy*.

Sir, Downing-street, 25 January 1856.

SINCE I assumed the seals of this department, I have had before me your predecessor's despatch No. 67,* of the 2d of July last, relative to the continuance of free immigration. I have also referred to his previous despatches, Nos. 34 and 35,† of the 10th and 16th of March, upon the same subject.

* Page 166.

† pp. 160. 164.

Upon the matters of detail involved in these despatches it is unnecessary for me now to give any directions. The important question is the continuance of emigration.

There can be no doubt that in 1848 an offer was made to send to colonies receiving convicts as many free people as the convicts they received, and that the intention of following this course was extended to Western Australia, when, two years afterwards, that colony became a place of transportation.

I wish freely to state at the outset that Her Majesty's Government assent to the proposition, that this country ought to send out free emigrants in that proportion, so long as the colony needs and can provide for them. But the difficulty which has arisen is, that, owing to want of employment, large numbers of the emigrants sent out by Her Majesty's Government have been unable to earn their subsistence, and have consequently become chargeable to the funds of this country for their support.

Your predecessor urges that, notwithstanding this fact, the emigration ought to be carried on irrespective of the demand for labour, and indeed that one-fourth of the funds asked from Parliament for the purpose of conveying emigrants to Western Australia should be made applicable to maintaining them after their arrival.

I am sure that you will perceive, and that the inhabitants of the colony will perceive on reflection, that this proposal is inadmissible, and that its adoption could only do injury to the community. Her Majesty's Government are anxious to fulfil most fully any expectation entertained at the time when the introduction of convicts was applied for by the colonists, and agreed upon in this country. They are willing, as was stated in Sir George Grey's despatch, No. 27, of the 16th of September 1854, to send out emigrants to Western Australia, provided they are wanted there. They have already sent several ships laden with emigrants, as more particularly set forth in the extracts I send you of a Report which the Emigration Commissioners were desired to furnish on this subject. But to send out independent people at a large expense from England to Australia, in order to make paupers of them, and incur another large expenditure for their maintenance, would be contrary to all reason; nor could it be done without gross injustice to the labourers so removed. They can only be supposed to forsake their homes, and proceed to a distant country, in the hope of bettering their condition; and it cannot be believed that, if duly apprised of the improbability of obtaining advantageous employment, they would accept the passage offered by Government. Moreover, the labouring population already in the colony would be injured if, at a time when labour is already in excess, fresh numbers of hands continued to be poured into the colony by public grants; thus rendering the means of earning a livelihood still more precarious.

Extracts. 17 Sept. 1855.

These are the objections to sending emigrants when not required. You will clearly understand that I should be most desirous to send them out whenever they are really wanted.

Seeing that a long time has now elapsed since any were despatched, and that the number of convicts sent out has been small, I shall be prepared to make the experiment of sending another ship with free emigrants; and whenever you can repor that they would have a good prospect of thriving in the colony, I shall be quite ready to send more; but with the understanding that if the Colonial Government should be mistaken in its calculations, and that the emigrants should be chargeable for maintenance after arrival, the expense must be borne by the colony. In this manner the expectation originally entertained when convicts were first introduced into Western Australia, will be satisfied, according

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according to the spirit of the engagement reasonably understood; and I shall be very happy if in time the resources of the colony so develop themselves, that it can absorb with advantage, instead of with detriment to various classes of its inhabitants, a number of free immigrants entirely equal to the number of convicts introduced from this country.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 6.

Enclosure in No. 6.

EXTRACT of REPORT from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners; dated 17th September 1855.

IN July 1848 Lord Grey first announced the intention of Government to send to colonies receiving convicts, "as nearly as they might find practicable, a number of free persons equal to that of the male convicts received in each colony;" and his Lordship further stated that a Parliamentary vote had been taken for the purpose, and that the vote would be expended in sending four different classes of emigrants; namely,

1st, The wives and families of well-conducted convicts;

2d, Those of military pensioners going out as convict guards;

3d, Females selected from union workhouses; and,

4th, With any balance that might then remain, free emigrants, selected under our ordinary rules.

6. And we may here point out that it has never been suggested to interfere with the emigration of the first two classes, nor of the very limited number of the 3d class, which, we may add, is desired in the colony. It was the emigration of the last class that we suggested should be regarded.

7. As the amount to be expended in this emigration was uncertain, depending on the number of male convicts sent out, no specific sum was mentioned in Lord Grey's circular. But for this service there was voted in 1849 and the following year, 30,000*l.*; reduced, in 1851, to 20,000*l.*; in 1852, to 15,000*l.*; and this year to 10,000*l.* For some time the vote was divisible between Van Diemen's Land and Western Australia, the former colony absorbing by far the larger portion; but since the cessation of transportation to Van Diemen's Land, that colony has shared in the vote to a less extent, and only for conveying the families of a few well-conducted convicts recommended for the indulgence by the Governor, a description of claim which will yearly diminish, so that nearly the whole vote may now be treated as available for Western Australia.

8. It has not hitherto been the practice to place this vote to our credit, and consequently we are unable to supply any general statement of its appropriation; but we can state what has been done through this Board, in sending to Western Australia emigrants of the two last classes, and we think it will be seen that if a larger number had been sent, the emigrants and the colonists would both have complained.

9. We annex a return of all the ships we have despatched, beginning with the "Sophia," in April 1850, and ending with the "Berkshire," in December 1854. The "Sophia" carried 246 souls, who "arrived all well, and conduct reported generally good." Of these emigrants Mr. Fitzgerald wrote as follows:

"I confess, my Lord, I was not prepared for this importation, and when I inform your Lordship that the pensioners are still occupying, from want of employment, the only building we could rent, I acknowledge myself at a loss how to even house these emigrants, much less to support them, in the absence of any demand for their labour, at least until harvest-time, a period of two months. On consultation, however, with Captain Henderson, I have determined, under our peculiar difficulties and necessities, to employ them, for rations only, in preparing the ground chosen for a site for our future convict depôt."

10. This certainly was not an encouraging commencement.

11. The "Sophia," however, was followed at an interval of 20 months by the "Mary," and at a further interval of three months by the "Raleigh." These were both small vessels, the first carrying only 121, and the last 163 souls. The "Mary's" immigrants, "with few exceptions, found ready employment, at a fair rate of wages;" but of those by the "Raleigh," who were admitted to be "of a very superior class, and well selected," only the mechanics speedily gained employment. The others, three weeks after the ship's arrival, were reported as being "gradually absorbed." The "Raleigh" was followed by the "Travencore," despatched on the 1st October 1852 with 221 souls, of whom about 90 were Irish female orphans; and by the "Palestine," despatched on the 30th November 1852, with 229 souls on board. Of the "Travencore's" immigrants, the immigration agent reported

reported that the carpenters and agricultural labourers, unencumbered with large families, obtained ready employment, as did a limited number of young women; but he at the same time reported, that, in consequence of the large number of ticket-of-leave men then in the employ of settlers, any emigration beyond two or three shiploads a year would involve much misery and disappointment, as the free emigrants with families could not compete with convicts who had none, and that even of unmarried women, 150 was the maximum that could be absorbed.

12. In this view the Governor coincided, and requested that the annual immigration might be limited to 150 single females, and 300 adults, with their families.

13. The immigrants by the "Palestine," which vessel followed the "Travencore," arrived out there three months later, and they appear to have gone off at the same rate.

14. The "Sabrina," despatched in March 1853, after an interval of three months, was the next ship. She was rather a larger vessel, and carried 320 souls. She arrived at Perth on the 13th June 1853; and on the 30th of that month the immigration agent reported, "Instead of being hired from the ship as they expected, very few have as yet met with employment, and nearly all of them have had to be taken into the depôt."

15. He further reported, that the last arrivals were in an "unenviable position," as the existing rate of wages did not suffice to support families of six or seven children; and that the "demand for labour was amply supplied in consequence of the number of ticket-of-leave holders and pensioners that have also been of late introduced," and therefore recommended "that shipments of free emigrants to this colony should be suspended for a time."

16. This intelligence did not arrive in time to stop the "Clara," which sailed with 326 souls in June 1853. She arrived on the 18th September, and it would appear that some of the emigrants were in the depôt as late as the end of December. The next ship, the "Victory," carrying only 241 souls, was not despatched until December, or six months after the "Clara." Two smaller ships, the "Esmeralda" and "Berkshire," each carrying about 200 souls, followed at intervals of six months. In one of the present despatches, it is stated that the "Esmeralda's" emigrants had been disposed of, but we have not yet heard of those sent in the "Berkshire," although nine months have elapsed since the despatch of that vessel.

17. It was in the "Victory" that Mr. Dodd, whose letter is complained of, acted as surgeon-superintendent, and upon the receipt of the despatches announcing her arrival, and that of the "Clara," and showing the difficulty experienced in disposing of their emigrants, we felt it to be our duty to submit to the Secretary of State the report of the 26th September last, which has caused the authorities so much dissatisfaction. It will be seen that nearly the whole of Mr. Fitzgerald's earlier despatch (of the 10th March) is in refutation of Mr. Dodd's statements, and we are bound to state that he appears to us to have explained satisfactorily the charge of negligence brought by Mr. Dodd against the colonial officers. But it will be seen from the 4th paragraph of our report that it was not by this gentleman's authority, but by the statements of the colonial authorities, that we were led to recommend that the emigration should be retarded; and although the very efficient manner in which Mr. Dodd appeared to have discharged his duties (not a single death having occurred on the voyage, and the authorities having reported everything on board to have gone on satisfactorily) entitled his statement to consideration, we pointedly observed that it might probably be somewhat exaggerated. We, therefore, feel it unnecessary to examine the Governor's remarks on his head.

18. The statements of the authorities to which we refer are those which regard not only the length of time the people were on the hands of Government, but also the disappointment which some had expressed at not meeting with the advantages they expected; and the low rate of wages obtainable by free labourers, a rate it was said, insufficient to support a large family. And if corroborative evidence of the propriety of our recommendation were needed, it would be found in the 14th paragraph of the Governor's despatch of the 10th March, where the expense entailed upon the local Government for the maintenance in depôt of the emigrants is complained of, and also in the later despatch of the 16th March, in which Mr. Fitzgerald recommends that there should be set apart for that purpose one-fourth of the whole Parliamentary vote, to be increased by 1,000 *l.* from the local funds, a recommendation, which if acquiesced in would involve an expenditure of 3,500 *l.* for the maintenance of emigrants, to be introduced at an outlay not exceeding 7,500 *l.*

19. Having said thus much respecting the past history of the emigration, it follows to report upon the course now to be adopted respecting it.

20. Two questions are raised by the Governor's despatch, first, the obligation of the home Government to carry it on as a matter of good faith towards the colony, and next the mode in which it can be carried on with justice to others.

21. On the first point we can do little more than refer to the despatch of Lord Grey already quoted, and to a later one of Sir G. Grey (of which a copy is enclosed in your letter of the 16th ultimo), in which he states that "Her Majesty's Government are willing to send emigrants to Western Australia as a penal colony if they are wanted there." The

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despatches of the Governor appear to show that the colonists desire the immigration, both as a means of increasing their produce, and to counteract the moral influences of the influx of ticket-of-leave holders. But they also seem to show that the immigrants will probably be exposed to distress, and the Government to expense, if they are sent even at the slow rate of three ships in the year.

22. On the second point we are bound to point out the difficulties which exist in carrying out this pledge (if it be one) to the satisfaction of the colonists, and with justice to the emigrants.

23. It is evident from what has been already stated, not only that Western Australia is not so advantageous a destination for emigrants as the other Australian colonies, but that it is very questionable whether an ordinary English labourer improves his situation by going there. It is much to be feared that many of the emigrants have gone thither without being fully alive to the broad distinction which exists between that and the more favoured colonies, nor do we believe that we should be able to prevail upon efficient labourers to proceed thither from England or Scotland if they were made fully aware that it was a penal colony, in which, owing to the competition of the ticket-of-leave holders, the wages were not sufficient to maintain, according to the colonial standard of comfort, a family comprising more than four children; and this difficulty would be especially great at the present moment, while so large an emigration is proceeding to other Australian colonies, and the demands of the war have increased the pressure for labourers in this country.

24. If, indeed, the personal influence of the colonists and of those connected with them in this country could be brought into play, it is possible that efficient persons might be attracted to Western Australia to join those on whom they would rely for guidance and assistance. But, viewing the emigration as it can be conducted by a Government Board, we can have little doubt that English or Scotch emigrants of a good class, if they had the case fairly brought before them, would decline to emigrate to Western Australia; and if they had not, would on their arrival feel themselves (and with justice) to have been deceived.

25. The case is different with the Irish emigrants. Their circumstances are worse at home, and there is among them a desire for emigrating which renders it impossible for us to send to the more favoured colonies all who wish to proceed thither. We think it probable that many of those whom we expect would in fact be bettered in their prospects by going to Western Australia, and would not be deterred from proceeding thither even by the knowledge of its comparative disadvantage, especially if the contributions required from them were reduced to an almost nominal rate.

26. We do not doubt that we could, without injustice to the emigrant, despatch to Western Australia two shiploads during the next twelve months, of Irish labourers and their families, with a proportion of young women from the workhouses, and perhaps a few exceptional cases of English and Scotch.

27. We fear that such an emigration would be little acceptable in the colony, even though carried on at the expense of the Imperial Treasury; and we think that any proposal which might be made by the colonists, and which was calculated through their co-operation to give it a character more acceptable to themselves, should be very favourably considered. But until such co-operation can be brought to bear, the mode of proceeding, which we have above suggested, is the least unsatisfactory which occurs to us.

28. As we observe from the enclosures to your letter of the 14th instant that the single women sent out from Ireland have been very strongly objected to in South Australia, we ought to add that we should probably be able, if required, to send out two ships during the ensuing year to Western Australia, without having recourse to the workhouse, but that there are two circumstances which distinguish the cases of Western and South Australia, first, that the infusion of male ticket-of-leave holders makes it peculiarly necessary to send out an increased proportion of females, and secondly, that the present emigration is carried on at the expense of the Home Government and not of the colonists.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 6.

RETURN of Ships and Emigrants despatched by Imperial Public Funds to Western Australia, from 1851 to 1854.

NAME of VESSELS.	Date of Departure.	Date of Arrival.	Number of Emigrants Embarked.				
			Adults.		Children under Fourteen.		TOTAL.
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Souls.
	1850:						
"Sophia" - - -	27 April -	27 July 1850	104	91	30	21	246
	1851:						
"Mary" - - -	22 December -	26 Mar. 1852	49	49	10	13	121
	1852:						
"Raleigh" - -	11 March -	1 June 1852	57	42	35	29	163
"Travancore" - -	1 October -	13 Jan. 1853	31	132	28	30	221
"Palestine" - -	30 November	28 April 1853	45	96	38	50	229
	1853:						
"Sabrina" - -	12 March -	13 June 1853	62	159	49	50	320
"Clara" - - -	7 June -	3 Sept. 1852	54	173	41	58	326
"Victory" - -	29 December	24 Mar. 1854	64	103	40	34	241
	1854:						
"Esmeralda" - -	24 June -	14 Oct. 1854	64	85	27	29	205
"Berkshire" - -	3 December	13 Mar. 1855	92	102	18	26	238
		TOTAL - -	622	1,032	316	343	2,310

—No. 7.—

(No. 9.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor *Kennedy*.

No. 7.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Kennedy.
14 February 1856.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 February 1856.

WITH reference to my recent despatch, No. 2,* of the 25th ultimo, on the question of continuing free emigration, and to my other despatch, No. 7,† of the 5th February, apprising you that as there was a difficulty in procuring an immediate supply of convicts, I had addressed some general inquiries on the subject to the Home Department, I have to inform you that, seeing that some delay may thus occur before any more convicts can be procured, and that so long an interval has elapsed since any free people were sent out, I have felt that the present would be a favourable opportunity for trying the experiment of again

* Page 173.

† *Vide* Papers on Convict Discipline, presented by Command, June 1856, p. 224.

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despatching an emigrant ship of moderate size. I have instructed the Emigration Commissioners to take the necessary steps for the purpose, making as good a selection of the emigrants as circumstances will admit.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 8.—

No. 8.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Kennedy.
16 April 1856.

(No. 13.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor *Kennedy.*

Sir, Downing-street, 16 April 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 104,* of the 18th October last, accompanied by a proclamation which you had issued under the Passengers' Act, 1852.

* Page 167.

I see no objection to this proclamation, but a fresh one will have been required upon your receiving the new Passengers' Act, passed in 1855.

I take this opportunity of enclosing, for your information, the copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, from which you will see the progress hitherto made by them in collecting a party of free emigrants for Western Australia. On the 4th of this month I communicated to the Emigration Commissioners so much of your despatch, No. 105† of the 18th of October, and of the address from a public meeting, therein enclosed, as related to the subject of emigration. This is the communication mentioned in the postscript of the Commissioners' present report, in which they refer to the testimony borne by you to the usefulness and good conduct of the young women from Ireland introduced into Western Australia.

8 April 1856.

† *Vide* Papers on Convict Discipline, presented by Command, June 1856, p. 107.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Sir, Emigration Office, 8 April 1856.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, enclosing a despatch from the Governor of Western Australia, in which he transmits a Gazette containing a proclamation issued under the Passengers' Act, 1852.

2. We have nothing to remark upon this document further than that the later Act of 1855, of which the Governor will have long since been apprised by the Colonial Office circular, will necessitate a fresh proclamation.

3. We would beg to take this opportunity of pointing out that in the same Gazette we observe a list of 49 paupers of various callings, and, with one or two exceptions, in good health, who on the 1st of September last were maintained at the expense of the local Government.

4. We have thought it necessary to bring this fact under Mr. Secretary Labouchere's notice, not with a view to suggest any modification of the instruction conveyed to us on the 14th of February last, namely, to despatch to this colony an emigrant ship of moderate size, with as good a selection of emigrants as circumstances would admit, but rather to show that our inability hitherto to give effect to the instruction will probably not cause disappointment in the colony. Although we lost no time in communicating with our selecting agents in the country, we have not yet been able to collect a sufficient number of people to justify our chartering a ship, but we have succeeded in engaging a limited number; and, not liking to keep them too long on hand, we shall probably be obliged shortly to take passages in a private ship for about 100 adults, and when they are despatched we shall apply for further instructions.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

P.S.—Since this was written we have received your letter of the 4th instant, which we shall consider a sufficient authority to select for this colony females from Ireland.

TASMANIA.

Despatches from Governors Sir William Denison and Sir H. E. F. Young.

TASMANIA.

TASMANIA.

Despatches from Governors Sir William Denison and Sir H. E. F. Young.

— No. 1. —

No. 1. Governor Sir W. Denison to the Duke of Newcastle. 17 August 1854.

(No. 145.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *W. Denison* to the Duke of *Newcastle.*

Van Diemen's Land, Government House,
17 August 1854.

My Lord Duke, (Received, 15 December 1854.)

I HAVE received information that four ships have been chartered by the Land and Emigration Commissioners for the conveyance of emigrants to Van Diemen's Land.

All of these ships, however, are bound to Hobart Town.

I would beg to suggest that instructions should issue to the Commissioners to send vessels to Launceston, if this can be done conveniently, in the proportion of one-third of the total number sent out.

The high prices which now rule in this colony have had the effect of diminishing the facility which formerly existed of transferring the emigrants from Hobart Town to their ultimate destination, and it is therefore desirable that they should be landed at a point as near as possible to the residence of their probable employer.

I have, &c.
(signed *W. Denison.*

— No. 2. —

No. 2. Governor Sir W. Denison to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey. 26 Sept. 1854.

(No. 10.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Van Diemen's Land, Government House,
26 September 1854.
(Received, 25 January 1855.)

Sir, (Answered No. 5, 3 May 1855, p. 232)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a despatch from his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, No. 89, dated 11th June 1854, in which I am called upon to report as to the duties performed by the immigration agent, and the necessity for continuing the high rate of salary now paid to the person holding that office.

14 Sept. 1854.

I forward herewith a statement drawn up by Mr. Loch, the immigration agent, of the nature and extent of his duties, to which the certificate of the Colonial Secretary is appended, that it is correct in every particular.

It is evident that duties, involving such an amount of labour and so serious a responsibility, can hardly be considered to be over-paid by a salary of 400*l.* per annum; and I bear willing testimony to the zeal with which Mr. Loch has entered into all the details of questions connected with the introduction of labour into this colony, and to his efficient administration of all the duties of his present office.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

Enclosure in No. 2.

Immigration Office, Hobart Town,
14 September 1854.

Sir,

In accordance with your memorandum of the 12th instant, I have the honour to make the following statement of the duties of the immigration agent:—

1. Emigrant ships from the United Kingdom, under the regulations of the Commissioners.
2. Ditto from Victoria.
3. Management of the Depôt.
4. Details of hiring and disposal of Immigrants.
5. The Bounty System and other regulations for the introduction of immigrants.
6. Correspondence, accounts, records, returns and reports.
7. Duties in connexion with the immigration office at Launceston.
8. Personal communication with the public and individual immigrants; and accommodation to individuals.
9. Advertising.

Upon these several heads I beg to observe.

1. Emigrant ships under the regulations of the Commissioners.—These ships are visited on arrival, the manner in which the Passenger Act has been observed, is ascertained. Complaints attended to (including long representations upon points of little consequence); the general management and the conduct of officers and immigrants inquired into. A descriptive list taken from personal communication with every immigrant, including name, age, native place, religion, trade and qualifications, education and any other particulars worthy of notice.

The single women are landed with their baggage, and placed in the depôt. Hiring superintended as below stated. A report made upon the ship, including full particulars. Claims for gratuities. Defects observed and subjects mentioned, in which it is supposed that improvements might be made. The master's list of emigrants, on which payment of passage-money is obtained, examined and signed.

2. Immigrants from Victoria.—Each vessel is visited, the immigrants mustered, and full particulars regarding each written down, and the greater part admitted to the depôt. Bills for passage-money in duplicate examined and forwarded for payment, with schedule; also agent's account for commission. There is a constant succession of these vessels with immigrants, and the amount of attention they require and the number of accounts to be examined and recorded, occupy more time than might be imagined.

3. Management of the Depôt.—The office of immigration agent being at the depôt, the management has been conducted under his immediate direction. The constant admission and discharge of immigrants and applications from the public for servants from Victoria and elsewhere, or for information. The necessity for cleanliness and good order. The questions arising upon the disposal of emigrants. The exactness requisite in the ration accounts and other records, which at times of much business are apt to be overlooked and to fall into confusion. The control of expenditure and the difficulty of influencing persons over whom no direct authority can be exercised, have been found to render frequent personal inspection necessary; and when women are at the depôt, this is especially requisite, continual endeavours being made to communicate with them, especially on Sunday, by sailors and others, who even climb upon the roofs of the out-offices and introduce spirits thus, or over the fences.

The situation of the depôt, the nature of the fences, and the absence of such an establishment as is maintained on board emigrant ships (which of course cannot here be kept up), render great vigilance indispensable.

4. Details of hiring and disposal of Immigrants.—The immigration agent has personally superintended both the hiring of women from the depôt and the general hiring of immigrants on board ship, which necessarily occupies much time. A record is kept of each engagement, copy of which is forwarded to the Colonial Secretary. The hiring of the single women in particular, under the system here followed requires much attention. A very large number of written applications for servants are received and filed. Inquiries made regarding doubtful applicants and admission orders made out and forwarded. Under the present system of immigration a payment must be received and a promissory note filled up and both recorded, and also a formal agreement executed for each immigrant hired; and the amount of the promissory notes must in due time be collected and accounted for.

5. The Bounty System, and other immigration regulations.—All bounty tickets are issued from the Hobart Town office, all applications being forwarded thither, whether from Launceston or elsewhere. The examination of applications, returning those which require correction. The receipt and recording of payments; paying them into the bank; making out a separate ticket in duplicate for each family or single emigrant applied for, together

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with the requisite records in the office and monthly detailed accounts, in duplicate, forwarded to the collector of internal revenue, require considerable time and attention. Many of the applications are made out at the immigration office for persons who require assistance in doing it, and there are many applications for information.

When immigrants arrive in considerable numbers under this system, and a separate statement is required of the immigrants introduced, and the amount payable under each ticket, involving correspondence and references, the duties will be greatly increased.

A considerable number of applications are also received under former regulations for the return of deposits, or payment of passage-money.

6. The correspondence is considerable, and must increase, including the furnishing of information; records are kept of the particulars of all emigrant ships; applications under regulations; payments received; claims for payment; ration returns, which in consequence of constant changes, are often long and perplexing, are made out in triplicate monthly, the third copy being kept for the office.

Accounts in duplicate of all payments received are forwarded to the collector of internal revenue monthly; small cash payments are very numerous, and are received during hurry and confusion; within little more than the last fortnight they have amounted to about 1,150*l.*

A general half-yearly report on immigration is made, and special reports as required.

7. Upon the duties in connexion with the Launceston office, it has been already submitted that all bounty tickets are issued from this office; all correspondence with the Government or officers passes through this office, and the half-yearly reports include Launceston. In like manner the accounts of money received.

8. Immigration is a subject, which in various ways so greatly affects the interest and comforts of the community, that personal communication, as well as corrsepondence with a large number of persons is unavoidable, and much time passes away in attention to inquiries, references and applications, which though trifling in themselves, and leaving no apparent results, cannot be neglected. Interruptions are so frequent that it is very generally found impossible to attend during office hours to correspondence, or any subject requiring consideration.

For many months the immigration agent has generally been at the office till about six o'clock, except on Sunday, the only time tolerably free from interruption, being towards evening. Much of the business has always been done at night, and the time of the clerk, Mr. Stanley, who is also subject to continual interruptions, is entirely occupied, including both his evenings, and latterly a great part of Sunday; for he has acted since the commencement of the year, also as officer in charge of the depôt. Indeed had he not so exerted himself, the business could not have been carried on hitherto without an increase to the establishment.

This has now become unavoidable and has been sanctioned; and I need scarcely submit that the business connected with immigration has of late increased; that it is increasing and must continue permanently to occupy fully the time of the immigration agent, until the colony is independent of immigration; at the present time four emigrant ships are known to be on their passage from the United Kingdom to Hobart Town.

Having been called on for this statement I have submitted these hasty observations; otherwise I should have preferred to have left the subject to the general knowledge of it possessed by the Lieutenant-governor, feeling myself a satisfaction in doing anything in my power to promote an object of such importance as immigration, and much gratification in the approval which his Excellency has been so kind as to express of the endeavours I have made to perform the duties entrusted to me.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary. &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *J. D. Loch*, Immigration Agent.

I have read this statement, and can testify to its correctness in every particular.

(signed) *W. Champ*, Colonial Secretary.

— No. 3. —

No. 3.
Governor Sir W. Denison to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey.
7 October 1854.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Hon. Sir *George Grey*, Bart.; dated Van Diemen's Land, Government House, 7 October 1854 (No. 20.)

(Received, 25 January 1855.)
(Answered, No. 27, 21 March 1855, page 230.)

"I HAVE the honour to forward herewith four Acts of Council which have been lately passed, and to which I have assented in the name and on behalf of Her Majesty.

* * * *

"No. 2 is intituled, 'An Act to regulate the Binding Out of Assisted Emigrants, and for other purposes connected therewith.'

"In my despatch* No. 66, dated 3d May 1854, I mentioned that a Bill had been prepared in conformity with that which had been passed by the Legislature of New South Wales, for the purpose of giving effect to the arrangement for apprenticing emigrants arriving under what is termed the New South Wales Scheme, but that I had not thought it necessary to bring the Bill forward, inasmuch as I did not, in consequence of expressions used in a report of the Land and Emigration Commissioners, anticipate the arrival of any emigrants under the provisions of this scheme. As, however, the Land and Emigration Commissioners have been able to forward two vessels with emigrants of this class, and as more are expected, the Bill has been introduced, and passed by the Council with only such modifications of the New South Wales Act as have been thought necessary to adapt it to the differing circumstances of this colony. Of these modifications, it is only necessary to allude specially to those embodied in clauses 7 and 8, which were introduced to prevent as much as could be done by legislation, the loss which the colony is likely to incur from the departure of emigrants whose passage has been paid.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper No. 42, Session 1855, page 76.

"The facilities which the numerous intercolonial traders offer to the emigrants to evade their obligations, by leaving this colony for Victoria, are so great, as to render some enactment of this kind applicable, as well to the emigrants as to the masters of the vessels who may knowingly connive at their departure, a matter of necessity."

Enclosure in No. 3.

Encl. in No. 3.

ANNO DECIMO-OCTAVO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. II.

By his Excellency Sir *William Thomas Denison*, Knight, Lieutenant-Governor of the Island of Van Diemen's Land and its Dependencies, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council.

AN ACT to Regulate the Binding out of Assisted Emigrants, and for other Purposes connected therewith. [15 September 1854.]

BE it enacted, by his Excellency Sir William Thomas Denison, Knight, Lieutenant-Governor of the Island of Van Diemen's Land and its Dependencies, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council, as follows:—

I. In the construction and for the purposes of this Act, and of all instruments and agreements referred to therein,— Interpretation.

The terms "immigration agent of the colony of Van Diemen's Land," "immigration agent of the [*or* 'that'] colony," and "immigration agent," shall severally extend to and include every immigration agent or person lawfully acting as such, or performing the duties of immigration agent, at any port or place in the colony.

The term "agreement" shall extend to and include all contracts, engagements, and instruments in writing, whether under seal or otherwise.

II. If any emigrant above the age of 14 years, having been provided with a passage to this colony by Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, and not having paid the full cost of Certain Emigrants paying passage-

money on arrival to be free from agreement signed prior to embarkation.

of his passage prior to embarkation, and having, prior to embarkation, signed an agreement in the form or to the effect set forth in the Schedule to this Act annexed marked (A.), shall, on arrival in the colony, or within 14 days after arrival, pay to the immigration agent on behalf of the Government the amount of passage-money mentioned in such agreement to be paid by such emigrant, such agreement shall thereupon be void so far as it relates to such emigrant.

Such Emigrants not so paying passage-money may be bound in service by immigration agent.

III. The immigration agent shall have authority, with or without the consent of any such emigrant not so paying his passage-money, or any balance thereof then due, to make and sign in his name, and on his behalf, an agreement of service with any competent employer for the term of two years, to be computed from the day on which such agreement is made and signed, in the form or to the effect set forth in the Schedule to this Act annexed marked (B.); and such employer shall thereupon pay into the hands of the immigration agent, for the use of the Government, half the amount then due to the Government for the passage of such emigrant so bound, and shall undertake to pay the balance of the passage-money required by the regulations from such emigrant at or before the expiration of 12 months from the making of such contract; such employer being hereby authorised to deduct such payments, so to be made on behalf of such emigrant from his wages, as such wages accrue due, by eight equal deductions from the same, during such term of two years.

Employer to pay passage-money.

Employer may deduct passage-money from wages.

Emigrant may terminate such service.

IV. Every emigrant serving an employer under any such agreement may, at any time after the expiration of the first year, terminate the same by giving such employer three months' notice thereof in writing, and by paying such employer the amount of money then remaining due for his passage.

Boys and girls engaged by the Emigration Commissioners may be apprenticed by the immigration agent.

V. If Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, by a written instrument in the form or to the effect set forth in the Schedule to this Act annexed marked (C.), shall engage on behalf of the immigration agent of the colony any boy or girl of or above the age of 13 years, from any orphan or other public school or eleemosynary establishment in any part of the United Kingdom, or from any parish or board of guardians, or parent or guardian willing to contribute at the rate fixed by any emigration regulation then in force applicable to such case, towards his or her passage to this colony, every such boy or girl, on his or her arrival, may be bound by the immigration agent by indenture in the form or to the effect set forth in the Schedule to this Act annexed marked (D.), to a proper employer, who upon the execution of such indenture shall pay the balance of the passage-money due to the Government for such boy or girl; and shall enter into an agreement for his or her due maintenance and support, and also for the payment to him or her of wages at the rates and times in the said indenture mentioned.

Contracts of service by immigration agent to be valid whether with or without consent of party bound.

VI. Every such agreement or indenture as is hereinbefore mentioned, executed by the immigration agent, whether with or without the consent of the party to be bound thereby, shall be as valid and binding on such party, whether of the full age of 21 years or not, as if the same had been executed by such party, or by any parent, guardian, or other lawful authority by or on his behalf, and the employer and employed mentioned in such agreement or indenture shall respectively be deemed to be master and servant or apprentice, as the case may be, within the meaning, and shall be liable and subject to the provisions of any law now or hereafter in force relating to masters and servants.

Punishment for emigrants departing from colony contrary to engagement.

VII. If, and as often as it shall appear to the satisfaction of any justice of the peace, upon complaint made to him in that behalf, that any emigrant to the colony, having entered into an agreement not to leave the same for any certain period after arrival therein without payment of the cost of his passage or any portion thereof, is about to depart from the colony within such period without making such payment as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for such justice thereupon to issue his warrant for the apprehension and bringing of such emigrant before him or any justice of the peace, and any such justice is hereby authorized to hear and determine such complaint; and if it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of such justice that such emigrant was about or did intend to depart from this colony within such period and without making such payment as aforesaid, and such emigrant shall not thereupon pay the amount of the cost of his passage then due, or give security to the satisfaction of such justice for such payment, it shall be lawful for such justice to punish such emigrant by imprisonment with hard labour for any period not exceeding three months.

Penalty on masters of vessels conveying such emigrants.

VIII. If the master of or other person commanding any vessel shall knowingly convey from the colony any such emigrant as last aforesaid, within such period and without such payment having been made as aforesaid, or shall knowingly receive or permit any such emigrant to be on board such vessel within such period, and without such payment having been made as aforesaid, with intent to convey such emigrant from this colony in such vessel, every such master of or person commanding any such vessel shall for every such offence forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding 50 *l.*, to be recovered in a summary way before any justice of the peace, and to be paid to the informer or complainant for his own use.

Act to apply to emigrants already arrived.

IX. The provisions of this Act shall extend and apply as well to such emigrants as aforesaid who have arrived before the passing thereof, as to those who may arrive here after.

X. This Act may be called and cited as "The Assisted Emigrants Act, 1854."

SCHEDULE (A.)

I, the undersigned, in consideration of a passage being provided for me, and [*as the case may be*] my wife and family, by Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, at the expense of the colony of Van Diemen's Land, bind myself either to repay to the immigration agent of that colony for the time being the sum of in sterling British money, within 14 days after my arrival in the said colony, or to take service with any employer in the said colony with whom I may agree during that period, and who shall be approved of by the said immigration agent, and shall forthwith pay to him one-half of the said sum; and shall bind himself to pay the residue thereof to the immigration agent for the time being in 12 calendar months, or within any shorter period of the date of such employment. And in default of my making any such agreement with the consent of the said immigration agent, and in the form prescribed by law or the regulations of the Governments, I hereby agree and bind myself to take such other employment, and to accept such wages as the said immigration agent may procure for me and my family respectively; and I hereby give him full power and authority, with or without my future consent, to sign on my behalf a contract of service with any employer whom he may select on my behalf for the term of two years, to be computed from the date of such contract; it being always understood that any such employer shall be at liberty to deduct from any wages that may accrue or become due to me during the said term, at the rate of one-eighth of the said sum in each three calendar months of such service; and further, that at any time after the expiration of the first year thereof I shall be at liberty, on giving my employer three calendar months' previous notice, to put an end to such contract and service by paying up the balance of the said sum then due by me for my passage.

[*Signature of Emigrant.*]

SCHEDULE (B.)

No.

MEMORANDUM of agreement made this day of 18 , between A. B., Esq., immigration agent at Hobart Town [*or* Launceston *or other place as the case may be*], of the first part, C. D., a free emigrant, per ship , of the second part, and E. F. of of the third part. The said C. D. engages to serve the said E. F. as a , and otherwise to make generally useful for the term of two years, to be computed from the date hereof; and also to obey all the said E. F.'s or his [*or* her] overseer's or authorized agent's lawful and reasonable commands during that period; in consideration of which services the said E. F. doth hereby agree to pay the said C. D. wages at the rate pounds shillings (£. per annum, payable quarterly, to provide him [*or* her] with the under-stated rations weekly) and to defray the expense of his [*or* her] conveyance to the place at which he [*or* she] is to be employed; it being always understood that the said E. F. is to be at liberty to deduct from any wages that may accrue or become due to the said C. D. by eight equal quarterly deductions, the sum of £. being the full sum due by the said C. D., to the Government of this colony for his or her passage thereto.

Weekly ration:

lbs. of meat, lbs. of flour, lbs. of sugar, ozs. of tea.

And the said E. F. hereby agrees to pay to the said immigration agent, immediately upon the execution of this memorandum, the sum of £. being one-half of the amount of passage-money due by the said C. D. to the said Government, and to pay the residue thereof to the said A. B., or to such other person as may then be the immigration agent for the time being, at or before the expiration of 12 months from the date hereof.

A. B., Immigration Agent at Hobart Town *or* Launceston *or* other place.
C. D.
or,
A. B on behalf of C. D.,
E. F.

SCHEDULE (C.)

WE, the undersigned or undernamed parties, severally agree and bind ourselves with the consent of all or any persons now in authority over us, to serve any employers to whom we may be respectively bound by the immigration agent of the colony of Van Dieman's Land as apprentices for the term or period of four years, to be computed from the date of our apprenticeship in the said colony, for such wages or remuneration, after payment by such employers of the sums due for our passages to the said colony, as to the same immigration agent may seem meet; and we do hereby authorise and empower him to bind us out as such apprentices immediately upon or at any time after our arrival in the said colony.

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SCHEDULE (D.)

No.

INDENTURE of apprenticeship made this day of 18 , between A. B., immigration agent at Hobart Town [*or* Launceston *or other place, as the case may be*] of the first part, E. F., an emigrant, male [*or* female *as the case may be*], per ship , being of the age of years, of the second part, and G. H.] of of the third part. The said A. B., [*or* C. D.], doth hereby bind the said E. F. to the said G. H. as an apprentice in the trade or calling of [*here describe particular occupation*], and otherwise to make himself [*or* herself *as the case may be*] generally useful for the term of four years, and also to obey all the said G. H.'s lawful and reasonable commands, or those of his [*or* her] authorized agent during that period; in consideration of which services the said G. H. bereby agrees to pay the said party of the second part wages quarterly, at the rate of pounds per year for the first two years, and at the rate of pounds per year for the residue of the said term, and to teach or cause him [*or* her *as the case may be*] to be taught such trade or calling during the said term; and to provide him [*or* her *as the case may be*] with lodging, and either with board, at a weekly ration (at the option of said G. H.), consisting of—

lbs. of meat, lbs. of flour, lbs. of sugar, ozs. of tea.

In witness whereof the said A. B., as such immigration agent as aforesaid, for and on behalf of himself and the said E. F., and also the said G. H., have affixed their names and seals to this indenture of apprenticeship.

(L. S.)
(L. S.)

Witness

Richard Dry, Speaker,

Passed the Legislative Council this 5th day of September 1854.

Fr. Hartwell Henslowe,
Clerk of the Council.

In the name and behalf of Her Majesty I assent to this Act.

W. Denison,
Lieut.-Governor.

Government House, Hobart Town,
15 September 1854.

— No. 4. —

No. 4.
Governor Sir W. Denison to the Right Hon. Sir
28 October 1854.

(No. 29.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *William Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Van Diemen's Land, Government House,
28 October 1854.

Sir, (Received, 12 February 1855.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a despatch from his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, No. 43,* dated 15 March 1854, in which after alluding to the arrangements which have been made for forwarding emigrants to Van Diemen's Land, his Grace brought under my notice a report of the Land and Emigration Commissioners, dated 14th March 1853, relative to the most convenient mode of conducting a nominee emigration to the Australian colonies, and has expressed a wish that regulations similar to those which have been adopted in the other Australian colonies, should be framed in Van Diemen's Land.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 436, Session 1854, Part II., p. 95.

I brought the subject under the consideration of the Executive Council, and the members were of opinion that as the regulations now in force (which were transmitted with my despatch No. 66,† dated 3d May 1854, have provided for the issue of tickets to persons belonging to the labouring class who might wish to bring out such of their relatives as would be willing to work for wages, and as these regulations appear to be working well, it would be undesirable to disturb their operation, at all events at present.

Enclosure.

† *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Session 1855, p. 76.

I have not therefore, thought it advisable to take any steps in the matter, until I may be in possession of some positive information as to the working of our present system.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

Enclosure in No. 4. Encl. in No. 4.

At a meeting of the Executive Council held at the Government House, Hobart Town on Thursday 13 July 1854, at two o'clock.

Present,—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, the Senior Officer of Her Majesty's Forces, the Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer, the Chief Police Magistrate.

The minutes of last meeting are read, and confirmed.

Minute No. 3.

Read a despatch from the Secretary of State upon the subject of emigration to this colony, in which his Grace the Duke of Newcastle recommends that the immigration regulations of this colony, as regards nominee immigration, should be assimilated to those in force in New South Wales and Victoria.

The Council is of opinion that as our regulations provide for the passage out of the relatives of persons in this colony who may desire to come out and to gain a living by labour, and that as these regulations have been found to work well, it would be unwise to make any alterations in them at present.

(Certified to be a true Extract.)
Chester Eardley Wilmot,
Clerk of the Council.

— No. 5. —

No. 5.
Governor Sir W. Denison to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey.
20 November 1854.

Extract of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.; dated Van Diemen's Land, Government House, 20 November 1854 (No. 51.)
(Received, 12 February 1855.)

"I forward herewith certain Acts which have been passed during the present Session of the Legislative Council, to which I have assented in the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, and which I trust you will be able to advise Her Majesty to allow.

* * * *

"No. 8 is intituled, 'An Act to amend the Law relating to Masters, Servants and Apprentices.'

"The object of this Act is to amend the former Act* (16 Victoria, No. 23), which was found defective in various particulars.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Session 1855, p. 94.

"The whole Act has been recast, and the language much simplified, the most material points in which the present Act differs from the former, are the following:

"1st. As to the persons subject to the provisions of the law of master and servant, the former Act made no provision for a numerous class of cases in this colony, viz., servants under age, and married women in domestic service who were not legally punishable for misconduct as servants. The present Act renders them liable in the same manner as other servants, providing however, that husbands and parents shall have power to put an end to engagements entered into by wives and children without their consent.

"2d. As to punishments, the only mode in which imprisonment was authorised to be carried out, involved an indiscriminate association with vicious characters highly objectionable, especially in the case of female servants. This objection is met in the present Act by authorising solitary confinement.

"3d. As to adjudication; the difficulty of obtaining the attendance of two magistrates as required by the former Act, for the adjudication of cases between master and servant was in some localities so great, as to cause a positive denial of justice in many instances. To remedy this, the jurisdiction is by the present Act vested in one or more magistrates.

"4th. As to offences: a great inconvenience was often experienced under the old Act in dealing with servants guilty of violent and outrageous conduct.

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There was no legal power of immediately putting an end to the nuisance, by having the servant guilty of such misconduct removed in custody, but the master was obliged to wait until an information could be laid before a magistrate, and a warrant issued, which in many instances involved considerable delay, during which time the outrageous conduct might be, and was often continued, to the annoyance of a peaceable family. This is remedied by a clause in the Act which authorises the apprehension without warrant, and removal of servants so offending.

"5th. In the case of female servants the Act authorises the substitution of a pecuniary penalty for imprisonment, at the discretion of the magistrate, which is a mitigation of the former law.

"6th. With respect to servants emigrating to this colony under the Bounty Regulations, the Act authorises the deduction by the master from the wages of the servant, of any amount advanced on account of passage-money or outfit.

"7th. In all other material points the former Act is unaltered, except as to language."

Encl. in No. 5.

Enclosure in No. 5.

ANNO DECIMO-OCTAVO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. VIII.

By His Excellency Sir *William Thomas Denison*, Knight, Lieutenant-Governor of the Island of Van Diemen's Land and its Dependencies, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council.

AN ACT* to amend the Law relating to Masters, Servants and Apprentices.
[3d October 1854.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS the law relating to masters, servants, and apprentices requires amendment: Be it therefore enacted, by His Excellency Sir William Thomas Denison, Knight, Lieutenant-Governor of the Island of Van Diemen's Land and its Dependencies, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

Construction.

I. In the construction and for the purposes of this Act—

"Labourer."

The term "labourer" shall extend to artificers, mechanics, tradesmen, manufacturers, journeymen, handicraftsmen, gardeners, farm labourers, shearers, fencers, sawyers, splitters, and all other workmen and labourers of every class or description whatsoever; and shall also extend to and include laundresses, sempstresses, dressmakers, milliners, needlewomen, and all other workwomen and female labourers of every class or description whatsoever, and whether married women or single.

"Servant."

The term "servant" shall extend to and include all persons so as aforesaid comprehended under the term "labourer," and also all grooms, coachmen, shepherds, herdsmen, working overseers, storemen, porters, and also all menial, domestic, farming and other servants of every class or description whatsoever, whether male or female, and whether married women or single:

"Apprentice."

The term "apprentice" shall extend to and include every person, male or female, of any age, bound by deed to serve as an apprentice or servant in any trade, business, occupation, or capacity whatsoever, and upon whose binding out no larger sum than twenty pounds shall have been paid.

"Master" "Employer."

The term "master" shall extend to and include "mistress" and the term "employer" shall mean any person, male or female, by or on behalf of whom any contract or agreement shall have been made with any labourer for the performance of any work.

Relation of master and servant.

The relation of master and servant shall be deemed to commence immediately upon the agreement or engagement for service being made or entered into, and notwithstanding the servant shall not have entered upon or commenced the service, and shall be deemed to continue until the lawful termination of the service.

Act to extend to servants and labourers engaged before the passing and above the age of 14.

II. The provisions of this Act shall extend to all servants, apprentices, and labourers whether engaged, bound, or employed before or after the passing thereof, and shall extend to all servants and labourers above the age of fourteen years; provided, that it shall not be necessary in any proceeding under this Act to allege or prove that any servant or labourer is above the age of fourteen years; but in case the servant or labourer shall allege that he is not above that age, the burthen of proof of such allegation shall lie on him.

Age not necessary to be proved.

III. It

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* Her Majesty's Assent to this Act, conveyed in Sir G. Grey's despatch, No. 45, 25th April 1855, repealed by subsequent Act, 19 Victoria, No. 28, page 240.

III. It shall be lawful for the husband of any married woman, and for the parent or guardian of any infant under the age of eighteen years. having entered into any engagement, or become bound as a servant or apprentice, without the consent of such husband, parent, or guardian, as the case may be, to terminate the service by giving a month's warning for that purpose to the master; and on the expiration of such warning such service shall be deemed to be terminated, and any deed, contract or agreement relating thereto shall thenceforth be void.

Husband or parent may put an end to service entered into without consent.

IV. Where the term or period of service of any servant shall be or become indefinite as to duration, such service shall not be terminable by either party by less than a month's previous warning, unless otherwise expressly agreed.

A month's warning necessary to determine an indefinite service.

V. The wages of servants and apprentices shall, in all cases whatsoever, unless otherwise expressly agreed, be deemed to be due and payable quarterly.

Wages to be payable quarterly.

VI. If any servant engaged by or on behalf of any master shall not enter upon his master's service according to such engagement, or shall absent himself from his master's service before the lawful termination thereof, or shall refuse to perform the same, or shall not perform the same in a diligent and careful manner, or shall disobey any lawful command of his master, or of any person by his master in that behalf authorised, or shall be guilty of any other misconduct in the execution of his service, or relating thereto, or during the continuance thereof, every servant in any such case so offending, being convicted thereof before a justice of the peace, upon complaint made by or on behalf of such master, shall be liable to imprisonment, with hard labour, for any period not exceeding three months, or to forfeit the whole or any portion of the wages due or accruing, or, at the discretion of such justice, to both such punishments.

Punishment of offences committed by servants.

VII. If any apprentice shall absent himself from his master's service without his leave, or be guilty of any other misconduct in, or relating to, or during the term of his service, every apprentice in any such case so offending, being convicted thereof before a justice of the peace, upon complaint made by or on behalf of such master, shall be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for any period not exceeding three months, or to forfeit the whole or any portion of any wages that may be due or accruing, or, at the discretion of such justice, to both such punishments.

Punishment of offences by apprentices.

VIII. If any labourer having contracted with any employer for the performance of any work, shall not commence such work according to his contract, or shall absent himself from such work before the completion thereof according to his contract, or shall return such work unfinished, or shall not perform the same in a diligent and careful manner, and according to his contract, or shall be guilty of any other misconduct in the execution of such work, or relating thereto, or during the continuance of such contract, every labourer in any such case so offending, being convicted thereof before a justice of the peace upon complaint made by or on behalf of such employer, shall be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for any period not exceeding three months, or to forfeit the whole or any portion of the money due or accruing under such contract, or, at the discretion of such justice, to both such punishments.

Punishment of labourers for breach of contract, &c.

IX. If any servant, apprentice, or labourer shall make use of any abusive, profane, or obscene language to, or in the presence or hearing of his master or employer, or any of the family of such master or employer, or shall assault, or conduct himself in a violent, unruly, or insubordinate manner towards his master or employer, or any of the family of such master or employer, or shall be drunk or disorderly on the premises occupied by his master or employer, it shall be lawful for such master or employer, or any of his family, to give the servant, apprentice, or labourer so offending into the custody of any constable, who is hereby required to take such servant, apprentice, or labourer into his custody without a warrant, and to convey him as soon as may be before a justice of the peace, and in the mean time to detain him in custody, and the justice before whom such servant, apprentice, or labourer shall be brought is hereby authorised to proceed against him in the same manner as if he had been brought before such justice by virtue of a warrant issued for that purpose under the authority of this Act.

Servants guilty of violent conduct, &c. may be given in charge to a constable.

X. If any servant or labourer, employed by his master or employer to perform any work about any house or premises in the occupation of any other person, shall make use of any abusive, insolent, profane, or obscene language, to or in the presence or hearing of the occupier of such house or premises, or any of his family, or shall be drunk, or guilty of any violent or disorderly conduct in such house or on such premises, or shall be guilty of any ill-behaviour towards such occupier or any of his family, every servant or labourer in any such case so offending, being convicted thereof before a justice of the peace upon complaint made by or on behalf of such occupier, shall be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for any period not exceeding three months.

Labourer employed about a house punishable for misconduct on complaint of occupier.

XI. Neither the period of absence without leave, nor that of imprisonment for any offence under this Act, shall be accounted part of the period or term of service of any servant or apprentice, but such servant or apprentice shall, on being found at any time after such absence, or immediately on the expiration of any such imprisonment, as the case may be, return to and continue in his master's service for such period as is equal to the period of service which was unexpired when he absented himself or was imprisoned, whichever may

Period of absence without leave or imprisonment not to be counted in that of service, but servant to return and complete service.

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may have first happened; and the period of service after such absence or imprisonment shall be deemed to be a part and continuation of the original service; and in case and as often as such servant or apprentice shall fail or refuse so to return to and continue in such service for such period as aforesaid, he shall be liable to be punished as for misconduct during his service.

Upon complaint being established, magistrate authorised, at the request of complainant, to discharge servant, &c.

XII. It shall be lawful for the justice before whom and to whose satisfaction any complaint under this Act shall be established, whether against any master or employer, or against any servant, apprentice, or labourer, and upon the request of the complainant, besides any order, award, or punishment by this Act authorised in any such case, to order the discharge of such servant, apprentice, or labourer from his service, employment, or contract, and to order any deed or instrument relating to such service or employment to be cancelled; and the same shall immediately on the making of such order be deemed to be cancelled, and shall thenceforth be void without actual cancellation.

Mode of procedure against servants, &c.

XIII. Upon complaint made to any justice of the peace by or on behalf of any such master, employer, or occupier against any such servant, apprentice, or labourer as aforesaid, for any offence under this Act, it shall be lawful for such justice to issue his warrant or summons at his discretion, to bring the servant, apprentice or labourer so complained against before him or any other justice of the peace; and any such justice is hereby empowered to hear and determine such complaint, and upon conviction to sentence the offender to such punishment as by this Act is in such case authorised.

If name of servant or labourer unknown he may be apprehended without naming him in warrant.

XIV. In case the name of any servant or labourer alleged to have committed any offence punishable under this Act shall not be known to the complainant, it shall be lawful for such complainant in his complaint to give such description as he is able of such servant or labourer, whereupon it shall be lawful for the justice to issue his warrant or summons, as the case may be, against such servant or labourer by such description, and all such proceedings may lawfully be had upon such warrant or summons as if the name of the servant or labourer had been contained therein.

Power to magistrates to remand servants apprehended.

XV. It shall be lawful for the justice before whom any servant, apprentice or labourer shall be brought by virtue of any warrant issued under the authority of this Act, to commit such servant, apprentice or labourer to prison for any period not exceeding seven days, there to be detained until the complaint can be heard, in order that reasonable notice may be given to the complainant to appear and substantiate such complaint, unless such servant, apprentice, or labourer shall enter into recognizance before such justice, with such sufficient surety and in such reasonable penalty as such justice shall approve, to appear at such time and place as such justice shall appoint, before himself or any other justice.

Place and mode of punishment.

XVI. Where imprisonment with hard labour may be awarded for any offence under this Act, it shall be lawful for the convicting justice to sentence the offender to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour in some gaol or house of correction, and also to direct that the offender shall be kept in solitary confinement for the whole or any portion of such imprisonment with hard labour, not exceeding thirty days, as to such justice in his discretion shall seem proper.

In case of female servants, &c. justices authorised to substitute pecuniary penalty for imprisonment.

XVII. And inasmuch as it may often happen that a pecuniary penalty would be a more appropriate punishment for offences against this Act committed by females than imprisonment with hard labour, and it is therefore expedient to authorise justices of the peace to substitute the former for the latter punishment according to their discretion, it shall be lawful for the convicting justice for any offence against this Act committed by a female (whether servant, apprentice, or labourer), in any case in which a pecuniary penalty shall appear to him in his discretion to be a more appropriate punishment, under the circumstances, than imprisonment with hard labour, to inflict a penalty for such offence not exceeding twenty pounds, to be paid to the use of Her Majesty by such female, either immediately or within such period as such justice shall think fit to appoint for the purpose, instead of imprisonment with hard labour, but besides the abatement or forfeiture of wages, if awarded; and in case of the non-payment of such penalty by such female, either immediately or within the period so appointed for the purpose, as the case may be, it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace to commit such female to some gaol or house of correction, there to be kept in solitary confinement for any period not exceeding fourteen days, unless such penalty be sooner paid.

Mode of procedure against masters upon complaint of servants for non-payment of wages.

XVIII. Upon complaint made to any justice of the peace by any servant, apprentice, or labourer, against any master or employer, concerning the non-payment of wages due, or of money owing for work done, it shall be lawful for such justice to summon such master or employer to appear before him or any other justice, and any such justice is hereby authorised to hear and determine such complaint, and, in case the same shall be established to his satisfaction, to order the payment, within such reasonable period as he shall think proper, by the defendant to the complainant of such wages or money as shall appear to be due, and also of such sum of money not exceeding five pounds as compensation for the non-payment of such wages or money, as he shall think reasonable.

Mode of procedure on complaints by servants, &c. against

XIX. Upon complaint made to any justice of the peace by any servant, apprentice, or labourer, against any master or employer, of having used any abusive, profane, or obscene language towards him, or concerning any misusage, refusal of sufficient and wholesome food,

food, or other necessaries, or neglect to provide the same, or any ill-treatment whatsoever, it shall be lawful for such justice to summon such master or employer to appear before him or any other justice, and any such justice is hereby authorised to hear and determine such complaint, and, in case the same shall be established to his satisfaction, to order the payment, within such period as he shall think proper, by the defendant to the complainant, of such sum of money, not exceeding twenty pounds, as in the discretion of such justice shall appear a reasonable compensation to the complainant for the injury.

masters for ill-treatment.

XX. Provided always, that if the defendant, having been so summoned as aforesaid, shall not appear before any such justice, it shall be lawful for such justice, upon proof of due service of such summons, to proceed as if the defendant had appeared.

If defendant does not appear Justice to proceed *ex parte*.

XXI. Every such order for the payment of wages, money, or compensation as aforesaid, shall, on non-performance thereof, be carried into effect by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the defendant.

Such order for payment of wages, or amends, enforceable by distress.

XXII. The costs attending every conviction or adjudication under this Act shall be assessed by the justice convicting or adjudicating, and shall be paid by the party against whom the conviction or adjudication is made; and such costs, where payable by any master or employer, shall on non-payment be levied by distress and sale of his goods; and where payable by any servant, labourer, or apprentice, may be deducted out of any wages or money then or thereafter due or accruing.

Costs to be paid by losing party.

XXIII. The forms of proceeding contained in the Schedule annexed are appended for the assistance and convenience of justices administering this Act; and those, or any other forms substantially to the same effect, may be used, with such modifications as may be necessary to meet the circumstances of the case, and shall be sufficient for all purposes.

Forms of proceeding contained in schedule sufficient.

XXIV. No conviction or adjudication under this Act shall be held bad for want of form, or removed by writ of *certiorari* or otherwise into the Supreme Court; and no warrant of commitment or distress shall be held void by reason of any defect therein, provided that there be a conviction or adjudication valid in substance to sustain the same.

Certiorari taken away.

XXV. Every deed or other agreement in writing heretofore or hereafter made and entered into in the United Kingdom or elsewhere out of the colony, by which any servant above the age of fourteen years has been or shall be engaged by or on behalf of any master for the service of such master in the colony, shall in all courts in the colony be valid and effectual without a stamp, and shall be of the same force and effect, and shall subject the parties thereto to the same consequences as if the same had been made and entered into within the colony, and all the provisions of this Act shall extend to such parties immediately upon arrival in the colony.

Agreements for service made in the United Kingdom or elsewhere valid without a stamp.

XXVI. In order to facilitate the proof of any such deed or agreement in writing so made or entered into in the United Kingdom or elsewhere out of the colony, the production thereof, with evidence that the person alleged to have entered into the same as servant arrived in the colony subsequently to the date thereof, and that such person bore or was called or known by the name mentioned therein, or had in any manner admitted having made or entered into or being under or bound by any deed, agreement, or engagement for service with the master named therein, shall, in all courts in the colony, without proof of the execution of such deed or agreement, be sufficient *primâ facie* evidence of such deed or agreement, and that the same was made and entered into by the parties alleged to have done so, any law or usage to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Facilitates the proof of such deeds and agreements.

XXVII. The term or period of service, and the wages, mentioned in any such deed or agreement made out of the colony, shall, unless otherwise expressed therein, be deemed to commence upon the arrival of the servant in the colony.

Term of service and wages of servant engaged abroad to commence on arrival.

XXVIII. Any master having, whether under Government regulations or otherwise, contributed any sum towards the passage-money or outfit of any servant engaged by him or on his behalf in the colony, or in the United Kingdom or elsewhere out of the colony, is hereby authorised, unless otherwise agreed, to deduct such sum from the wages of such servant as the same accrue due, by instalments not exceeding half the amount of wages accruing due at any one time; provided, that it shall not be lawful for such servant to quit such master's service, but such service shall be deemed to continue notwithstanding the expiration of the term originally agreed upon, until such sum shall have been fully liquidated.

Master having contributed towards passage-money of servant entitled to deduct the same from wages.

Servant not to quit service till contribution paid.

XXIX. Where any sum of money on account of wages has been paid in advance by any master to any servant, or for his use and at his request or with his consent, such servant shall not quit his master's service, but the service shall be deemed to continue notwithstanding the expiration of the term originally agreed upon, or of a warning sufficient otherwise to determine the same, until the sum so paid in advance has been fully liquidated.

Where any advance on account of wages servant not to quit service until advance liquidated.

XXX. If any person shall knowingly hire, employ, retain, harbour, conceal, or entertain any servant or apprentice so engaged or bound as aforesaid to any master before the lawful termination of his service, or any labourer having so as aforesaid contracted with any employer before the completion of his contract, every person so offending, being convicted thereof in a summary way before a justice of the peace, shall for every such offence forfeit and

Punishment for employing or harbouring servants, &c.

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and pay a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds, whereof one moiety shall be paid to the informer or complainant for his own use, and the other moiety to the colonial treasurer in aid of the general revenue; provided, that it shall be lawful for the defendant to appeal from such conviction if he thinks fit.

Complaints to be heard at police office.

XXXI. Every complaint under this Act shall be heard and determined in a summary way, and at some public police office or place used as such, or usual place of meeting of justices for the purpose of holding petty sessions.

Jurisdiction vested in one or more Justices.

XXXII. The jurisdiction by this Act vested in a justice of the peace may in all cases be exercised by one or more justices of the peace.

Facilitates mode of redress for the seduction of female apprentices and servants under age.

XXXIII. Whenever any action shall be brought by any parent, guardian, or other person by law entitled to bring such action, against the master of any female apprentice or servant under age, for the alleged seduction by such master of such female apprentice or servant whilst in his service, it shall not be necessary to aver that such female apprentice or servant was, or continued to be, the servant of such parent, guardian, or other person by law entitled to bring such action, or to give evidence of any service or constructive service of any such female apprentice or servant with such parent, guardian, or other person by law entitled to bring such action, but every such action shall and may be maintained without such averment or proof as aforesaid, any law or usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Supreme Court to appoint a person to sue in such cases on behalf of female apprentices and servants.

XXXIV. If any female apprentice or servant having been so seduced as aforesaid shall have no parent, guardian, or other person who by law can become the plaintiff in any such action against the master of such female apprentice or servant, it shall be lawful for the Supreme Court of Van Diemen's Land or for any judge thereof, upon application in that behalf made by such female apprentice or servant, or by any person authorised for that purpose by such female apprentice or servant, to appoint some person to sue on behalf of such female apprentice or servant as plaintiff in any such action, and upon any such application it shall be lawful for such court or judge, at the discretion of such court or judge, to order that such person shall be so admitted to sue *in formâ pauperis*, and in any such action as last aforesaid it shall not be necessary to aver that such female apprentice or servant was and continued to be the servant of such person so appointed to sue as plaintiff as aforesaid, or to give evidence of any service or constructive service of any such female apprentice or servant of such person, but every such action shall and may be maintained without such averment or proof as aforesaid, any law or usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

In formâ pauperis if necessary.

Servants and Apprentices' Act, 1852, (16 Vic. No. 23,) repealed.

XXXV. The "Servants and Apprentices' Act, 1852," is hereby repealed, except as to offences committed before the passing of this Act.

Short title.

XXXVI. In referring to this Act in other Acts of Council, and in legal proceedings and otherwise, it shall be sufficient to use the expression "The Master and Servant Act."

SCHEDULE referred to in this ACT.

No 1.

FORM of Conviction of Servant, &c.

Van Diemen's Land, (to wit.)

BE it remembered, on this day of 18 S. E. (*the defendant*) was duly convicted before me, J. P. esquire, being a justice of the peace of [*here state the substance of the offence, e. gr.,* misconduct relating to the service of his master, M. A., in having disobeyed a lawful command of his said master], contrary to the Master and Servant Act; and I do, by virtue of the said Act, sentence the said S. E. for such offence to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour in [*here mention the gaol or house of correction*] for the period of [*if solitary confinement is directed add*], and I direct that the said S. E. shall be kept in solitary confinement during such period of imprisonment [*or* during days of such period of imprisonment]; and I do order the said S. E. to pay to the said M. A. the costs attending this conviction, which costs I assess at the sum of .

Given under my hand and seal at the day and year first written.

NOTE.—*The above form will vary according to circumstances,* e. gr., *if the conviction is before more than one justice, say,* "before us, J. P., G. K., &c., esquires, being justices of the peace." *The sentence may vary thus:* "to forfeit the whole [*or if a portion, state what portion*] of the wages [*or* money] now due [*or* accruing] to him, the said S. E. from the said M. A.," *or* "to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour in [*mention the gaol or house of correction*] for the period of , and also to forfeit the whole [*or state what part*] of the wages now due [*or* accruing] to him, the said S. E., from the said M. A.," *and so according to circumstances.*

No. 2.

FORM of Adjudication and Order for the Payment of Wages, Money, or Compensation.

Van Diemen's Land }
(to wit.) }

WHEREAS on this day of 18 , upon the hearing before me, J P., Esquire, being a justice of the peace, of the complaint of S. E. against M. A., his master [*or* employer] concerning [*or* of having] [*here set forth the substance of the complaint, e. gr.*, "concerning the non-payment of certain wages amounting to £. ," *or* "of having ill-treated the said S. E. by beating him," *or as the case may be*], the said complaint was established to my satisfaction: now I, the said justice, do, by virtue of the Master and Servant Act, order the said M. A. to pay to the said S. E. within days from the date hereof the sum of , being the amount of wages due to the said S. E. [*or* "the amount of money owing to the said S. E. for work done," *or* "in respect of his contract," *or as the case may be*], and also [*in case compensation is awarded*] the sum of as compensation for the non-payment of such wages [*or* money], together with the costs attending this adjudication, which I assess at the sum of .

Given under hand and seal at the day and year first above written.

NOTE.—*This form will also vary*, e. gr., *where the complaint was for misusage, &c., the order will be to the following effect:* "I, the said justice" [*or* "we, the said justices"] do, by virtue of the Master and Servant Act, order the said M. A. to pay to the said S. E., within days from the date hereof, the sum of as compensation for such misusage [*or* ill-treatment, *or as the case may be*], together with the costs, &c.

No. 3.

FORM of Warrant of Commitment.

Van Diemen's Land }
(to wit.) }

To Chief Constable and all other Constables, and to the Keeper of the Goal [*or House of Correction*] at .

WHEREAS S. E. has been duly convicted before me, J. P., Esquire, being a justice of the peace of [*here state substance of offence of which the defendant has been convicted*], contrary to the Master and Servant Act; and has for such offence been sentenced by me, the said justice, by virtue of the said Act, to [*here set forth the sentence of imprisonment as in the conviction—see above*]: Now I, the said justice, in pursuance of the said sentence, and by virtue of the said Act, do command you, the said constables, forthwith to convey the said S. E. to the gaol [*or* house of correction] aforesaid, and to deliver him to the keeper thereof, with this warrant; and you, the said keeper, are hereby commanded to receive the said S. E. into your custody in the said gaol [*or* house of correction], there to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for the said period of from the date hereof. [*If solitary confinement is directed, add*] and I direct that the said S. E. shall be kept in solitary confinement in the said gaol [*or* house of correction] during such [*or* days of such] period of imprisonment with hard labour, and for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant.

Given under my hand and seal, at this day of 18 .

NOTE.—*The above form will also vary, according to circumstances.*

No. 4.

FORM of Distress Warrant in the event of Non-performance of any Order for the Payment of Wages, Money, or Compensation by a Master or an Employer.

Van Diemen's Land }
(to wit.) }

To Chief Constable, and all other Constables, and others whom this may concern.

WHEREAS on the day of 18 , upon the hearing before me, J. P., Esquire [*or if before some other justice*, before G. K., Esquire], being a justice of the peace, of the complaint of S. E. against M. A., his master [*or* employer], concerning [*or* of having] [*here state substance of complaint*], the same was established to my satisfaction [*or* to the satisfaction of the said justice]; and the said M. A. was ordered by [me], the said justice, to pay to the said S. E. within days from the date of such order the sum of [*this reference to the order will vary according to the circumstances of the*

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the case], together with the costs attending the adjudication, which [I], the said justice, did assess at the sum of : And whereas the said M. A. has neglected to pay the said sum [*or* sums] of money and costs within the time prescribed for that purpose, and the same still remain unpaid: Now, therefore, I, the said justice, do hereby authorise and require you, the said constables, or either of you jointly or severally, forthwith to make distress of the goods and chattles of the said M. A: and if within the space of days next after such distress by you taken the said sum [*or* sums] of money, with the costs attending the adjudication, and all incidental expenses attending the said distress, shall not be paid, that then you do cause the said goods and chattels by you seized to be appraised and sold, rendering the overplus (if any) to the said M. A., after deducting the said sum [*or* sums] of money, and the said costs and all incidental expenses attending the said distress and sale. And the said sum [*or* sums] of money and costs you are hereby ordered to pay to me, the said justice; and if sufficient distress cannot be had or found whereupon to levy the said sum [*or* sums] of money, and all costs, charges and expenses hereinbefore mentioned, you are hereby required to certify the same to me, together with the return of this precept. Herein fail not.

Given under my hand and seal, at this day of 18 .

NOTE.—*This form will also vary according as the adjudication was before one or more justices, and as the distress warrant is issued by one of the justices adjudicating, or some other justice, and otherwise according to circumstances.*

FORM of Certificate of Nulla Bona to be endorsed when required on Distress Warrant.

THE statement of upon oath, who saith, I have made diligent search and inquiry, but cannot find any goods and chattels belonging to the within-named M. A. to levy this warrant of distress upon.

Sworn before me the
day of 18 .

Richard Dry, Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 29th day of September 1854.

Fr. Hartwell Henslowe, Clerk of the Council.

In the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, I assent to this Act.

W. Denison, Lieutenant-Governor.

Government House, Hobart Town,
3 October 1854.

— No. 6. —

No. 6.
Governor Sir W. Denison to Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart.
29 December 1854.

(No. 88.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.

Van Diemen's Land, Government House.
29 December 1854.

Sir, (Received, 17 March 1855.)

IN accordance with the instructions contained in despatch No. 205, dated 27 December 1848, I have the honour to forward a return, showing the amount of expenditure for immigration purposes during the half-year ending 30 June 1854.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. Denison.*

Enclosure in No. 6.

Enclosure in No. 6

RETURN showing the Amount Expended for Emigration Purposes during the Six Months ended the 30th June 1854.

	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Salaries of officers	660 5 2	
Repairs of immigration depôt	33 18 3	
Rent of depôts	250 – –	
Medical attendance on immigrants	– 15 –	
Gratuities to officers of immigrant vessels from Great Britain	288 12 –	
Passages of immigrants from Victoria	2,023 13 6	
Rations, fuel, light, stores, cartage, &c.	177 3 9	
Repayment of deposits	1,200 – –	
Charged to the Land Fund £.		4,634 7 8
Passage-money of immigrants under the Regulations of October 1852	381 15 –	
Repayment of deposits	1,806 5 –	
Charged to General Revenue £.		2,188 – –
TOTAL £.		6,822 7 8

Audit Office, Hobart Town, 15 December 1854.

E. J. Manley, Colonial Auditor.

— No. 7. —

(No. 93.)

No. 7. Governor Sir W. Denison to Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart. 30 December 185

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *W. Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Van Diemen's Land, Government House, 30 December 1854.

(Received, 17 March 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 43, 2 July 1855, page 232.)

1. I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 51,* dated 22d September 1854, enclosing a copy of the report of the Land and Emigration Commissioners upon the regulations for the introduction of immigrants, forwarded with my despatch No. 66, dated 3d May 1854.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Session 1855, page 87.

2. I will proceed, in the first place, to comment upon the objections made by the Commissioners to some of the details of the bounty scheme at present in operation, and will then contrast it with that under which emigrants have been lately forwarded by the Commissioners to this colony; and I think that I shall be able to show that, under all circumstances, it would be advisable to give the bounty scheme a fair trial.

3. The first portion of the report of the Commissioners contains a brief precis of the correspondence which has taken place on the subject of emigration to Van Diemen's Land, an outline of the scheme proposed, and a detail of the operations of the Commissioners; and these call for no remark from me.

4. In paragraph 5, the Commissioners say that I propose to carry on emigration to Van Diemen's Land on two systems,—

1st. An entirely free emigration, carried out by the Board with the funds now in their hand.

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2d. A bounty emigration under regulations recently promulgated in the colony.

It is true that I did propose at that time a double scheme, but I intended the first, or what the Commissioners call the free emigration, to continue only so long as there were funds in the hands of the Commissioners. So soon as these are exhausted, which must now nearly be the case, the free emigration will cease, and the bounty emigration will be the only kind recognised by the Government.

5. I will now proceed to notice the objections made by the Commissioners to some of the details of the bounty scheme. In paragraph 8, they say, "The regulations appear to us to be drawn up in terms far too general and undefined, and to allow far too much latitude in their interpretation;" and they then instance the deposit on account of a family which is settled at 5 *l.* without any limitation as to the number or age of those who compose it, and they remark, that "the families which are always most eager to emigrate are those with large numbers of young children," and they say, "but the regulations in their present shape, so far from opposing an obstacle, actually offer a premium to such families."

6. It appears to me, that the Commissioners have altogether overlooked the fact, that the persons who take out the tickets, and whose object it is to obtain servants selected in England by their own agents, have, in most instances, a direct interest in keeping down the number of children, or the amount of unprofitable labour, as much as possible. That as these persons will have to maintain the families, as well as the individual servants or labourers forwarded on their account, it is probable that they will instruct their agents to be careful in the selection of married couples, and not to saddle them with the maintenance of large families for whom they will not be able to find work.

7. It is true, that persons who are anxious to assist their relatives and friends to emigrate to Van Diemen's Land will not be very particular as to the number of the families of those whom they wish to bring to the colony; but even in this case, as the Government does not burthen itself with the maintenance, even for a day, of those who come out under the bounty regulations, the support of the children, after the arrival of the emigrant, must be thrown either upon the parent or upon the person by whom the arrangements for his passage were made. Although, therefore, it may happen that advantage will be taken of the letter of the regulations in a few cases, and large families landed here, yet there will be exceptions to the general rule.

8. The Commissioners appear to think that the bounty orders, or rather the receipts for the money paid to the immigration agent, will be hawked about for sale in England. It is not improbable that this may be the case, to some extent, with regard to those forwarded in blank to societies; but it is not very probable that a man would pay 5 *l.* here to the immigration agent under the idea that he would be able to make money by the sale in England of an order for the passage of a family. I do not mean to say that instances of the kind may not occur, but they will not be frequent, and it would hardly be desirable to place checks upon the system merely for the purpose of remedying an evil which may but seldom occur. With regard to the blank orders, these will form, from henceforward, but a small proportion of the whole number issued, as it is not the object or intention of the Government to devolve upon societies or public bodies the administration of a matter which will be far more safely entrusted to private individuals.

9. In paragraph 9 the Commissioners remark, that nothing is said as to the age, character, and capacity for work of the persons to be sent out; there is nothing to exclude persons past work, or physically incapable of it, or of bad character and depraved habits. To this I would reply, that the power of selection being entrusted to those who have a direct interest in securing the services of persons competent to work, the chance is that in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, the emigrant, under the bounty system, will be perfectly qualified for the work he will be called upon to perform.

10. In paragraph 10, the Commissioners remark upon the rule whereby the labouring classes are permitted to import their relatives upon the single condition that the persons so imported shall be of the labouring class, and intend

to

to labour in the colony for their livelihood. And in paragraph 11, they comment upon the system of transmitting blank bounty orders to committees and agents in the mother country who, they state, can scarcely be brought under any practical responsibility.

11. I am aware that there is some risk of the abuse of the indulgence granted by the Government, both on the part of the friends and relatives of emigrants, and of the committees or agents of societies at home; but the abuse is guarded against in some measure by the immigration agent who, in the case of persons applying for tickets for their friends, is rigid and exact in his inquiries as to their character, the nature of their employment, &c. In the case of blank tickets this of course cannot be done, but these are not issued indiscriminately; neither will many be issued for the future.

12. In discussing the merits of any scheme for the promotion of immigration I would submit that it should not be considered absolutely, but relatively. And in discussing the merits of the bounty scheme which has been adopted, I wish to do so more with reference to other systems which have been tried and failed, than as a scheme excellent in itself. If, for instance, it be compared with the system of free emigration as now carried on by the Commissioners under the provisions of what is termed the New South Wales Scheme, I think it will be found that the bounty system will not only introduce a better description of immigrants, but that the cost to the colony will be much less for each adult.

13. I forward herewith a report from the Immigration Commissioner at Hobart Town, by which it will be seen that the Government has been compelled to relinquish its claim to be repaid a larger proportion of the passage-money of the emigrants, than it can claim under the Bounty Regulations; that much difficulty has been experienced in getting rid of the emigrants sent out by the Commissioners, partly in consequence of their being an undue proportion of Irish, and consequently of catholics among them, partly owing to the large families with which many of them are burthened. The Government has, therefore, been put to a heavy expense in maintaining these people, in addition to the cost of their passage to the colony; an expense which would not have been incurred had they been sent out under the Bounty Regulations.

3 November 1854.

14. With reference to these latter, I may take the opportunity of informing you, that arrangements have been made with Messrs. Baines & Co., proprietors of the Black Ball line of packets to Australia, by which these gentlemen bind themselves to find passages on board their ships for the holders of the tickets issued by the Government of this colony, receiving payment here on the landing of the emigrant; so that nothing can be simpler than the arrangements to be made by any person wishing to import any particular description of labour. Such a person has but to pay to the immigration agent 5 *l.*, or 3 *l.*, according as he may require a married or a single servant, to enclose the receipt given to him to his agent in England, with such directions as he may choose relative to the character and qualifications of the servant he requires, and with instructions to communicate with Messrs. Baines & Co., who will provide a passage for the servant on the production of the receipt.

15. I trust, therefore, that no objection will be made to the continuation of the experiment, the result of which will be ascertained in the course of a very few months, as the immigrants are now beginning to arrive.

16. Should the views of the Commissioners as to the character of the immigrants prove correct, there will be no difficulty in modifying the conditions under which the bounty is granted, in any way which may be thought advisable; should, on the contrary, the immigrants prove to be of a description likely to prove valuable to the colony, funds, I trust, will be easily procured to defray the cost of such an extension of the system as will meet all the wants of the community.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

TASMANIA.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Immigration Office, Hobart Town,
3 November 1854.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Report upon Immigration called for in the memorandum of the Lieutenant-governor, dated 28th ultimo.

Sub-Enclosure 1.

2. Statement No. 1, hereto attached, shows the condition of the Bounty Immigration System to the 31st October.

His Excellency will observe that a considerable number (369) of the applications are from the relatives of persons in this colony of the working class, and I do not doubt that an increasing immigration will in this manner be maintained through the instrumentality of the emigrants themselves.

Sub-Enclosure 2.

3. No. 2 is a statement of the immigration from Victoria, from the commencement to the 31st of October.

On this immigration I have to submit that the plan first adopted by the Government was to forward to the agent in Melbourne applications for servants from individuals in Van Diemen's Land, in order that the emigrants might be forwarded under engagements to service, the master paying 1 *l.* per adult on arrival, and the Government the remainder of the passage-money. This plan, however, was never acted on. The working people were apprehensive of being engaged under unfavourable circumstances, and refused to proceed to this colony, unless at liberty to make their own engagements, consequently they have been sent over under no other stipulation than that they should take service in Van Diemen's Land.

Under this immigration valuable persons have been obtained, but, regarding it as a whole, it has been of an inferior description, and has consisted chiefly of single men, many of whom have had no particular trade or capabilities; a considerable number have been persons reduced from better circumstances; others have come for the re-establishment of their health; passages have been obtained to an extent of which I cannot speak with certainty, but which I believe to have been by no means inconsiderable, by persons who had ample means to bear their own expenses, and entertained no intention of taking service. I have heard from various sources that such emigrants, in many cases, return after a short time to Victoria.

The emigrants who have come to the depôt may be generally characterised as indisposed to regularity or control, frequently filthy in their person and habits, and even covered with vermin in numerous instances, and refusing very commonly to accept reasonable wages. A similar account is given by the immigration agent at Launceston, of those sent to that place, of whom he has several times spoken as the refuse of Victoria, for whom it was difficult to obtain employment.

These circumstances, which were adverted to in my last half-yearly report, pointed out the necessity for some restrictions upon this immigration, and some better security for selection than the payment of ten shillings per statute adult; but the sudden arrival of several ships with intended immigrants from the United Kingdom, for whom there was no immediate prospect of obtaining employment, and the expectation of other arrivals, determined the Government to discontinue granting passages at the public expense for emigrants from Victoria.

Sub-Enclosure 3.

4. No. 3 is a general statement of emigrants who have arrived under the system of indented emigration, up to the 31st October.

Sub-Enclosure 4.

No. 4 shows the native countries and religious denominations of those emigrants.

Sub-Enclosure 5.

No. 5 shows the trades or calling of the male emigrants; and

Sub-Enclosure 6.

No. 6 the trades or qualifications of the female emigrants.

The difficulty experienced by the married persons among these emigrants in obtaining employment has been very remarkable, and I conceive that various causes have contributed to it; they have arrived at the most unfavourable season of the year, viz. that between the putting in of the crops and the commencement of harvest. Many colonists have sent home for servants under the bounty system, whom they expect soon to arrive, and are therefore rather disposed to decrease their establishments than to add to them. The families of the emigrants are in many cases too large, and the expense of conveying them up the country, and of supporting them, is very considerable. There is a very great unwillingness on the part of the colonists generally to engage Irish servants, who are considered an inferior description of labourers, and a wish to obtain English and Lowland Scotch people (the unwillingness probably arises in some measure from the inferiority of the class of Irish who have been sent here); and the want of labour has been less felt of late in consequence of the decreasing attraction of the gold fields, and because the high prices of labour and provisions have compelled many of the colonists to limit, as far as possible, the employment of servants and working people, while the same causes prevent their engaging in building, fencing, and other expensive operations: and the importation of manufactured articles greatly limits for the present, the demand for mechanics and tradesmen. The working population in Victoria has also been greatly increased.

Other causes also affect the engagement of these emigrants. It is not usual here to engage mechanics for a long term; they are engaged by the day, week, or job, and this being the case the employers of such persons object to making the requisite cash payment, especially for workmen of whose characters and capabilities they are uncertain (the number of mechanics, however, is not large). Another obstacle is, that the emigrants arrive with exaggerated

exaggerated ideas of the wages they ought to receive, and wages having fallen in the colony, the offers made them do not accord with their expectations, and are refused often under an impression that the employer wishes to take an advantage of them. This being made public, the emigrants are considered unreasonable in their demands, and are not sought after, especially by persons in the country, who must incur considerable expense in coming to town to communicate with them, with no certainty of engaging servants. For this no remedy is found in the power given to the immigration agent to bind out the emigrants on such wages as he may think just, for I have on various occasions offered to bind out emigrants, and the employers have refused, except in one instance, to take them against their will; and the immigration agent at Launceston states that he also has found this to be the case.

The payment to be obtained on account of the emigrant prevents his being struck off Government support for refusing reasonable offers, as would otherwise be done, and, in this way, this cause also impedes the engagement of the emigrants.

The causes enumerated would, under any circumstances, have operated to the disadvantage of the emigrants, but when to these is added the necessity for a cash payment on the part of the employer on engaging the emigrant, I think I may safely submit that the effect is to place the emigrant at a disadvantage in competing for employment with persons on whose account no payment is to be made; and thus, in many cases, to throw the emigrant out of employment altogether, even at the reduced rate of payment now sanctioned.

5. Endeavours were made by the Government to meet these difficulties. It being found that the married emigrants did not, to any considerable extent, meet with engagements, and that this was even the case with the single women (notwithstanding the well known scarcity of female servants) at the original rate of repayment on account of passage-money, viz., 12 *l.* (or in some cases 10 *l.*) for persons of 14 years or upwards, a reduced rate of payment was sanctioned by the Lieutenant-governor, viz., 5*l.* for a man his wife and children under 14 years, and 3 *l.* for a single emigrant of 14 years or upwards, on condition of the emigrant signing an engagement either to remain four years in the colony or, in the event of desiring to leave it, repaying the full amount on account of passage-money originally stipulated.

The effect of this reduction upon the hiring of the single women and single men was very apparent, and has, but to a much smaller extent, facilitated the engagement of families.

The Government also forwarded by steamer to Launceston on the 7th October, 119 adults and 49 children, comprising 33 single women, not included in families, in the hope that there would be found in that neighbourhood a greater demand for their services than at Hobart Town. The single women and single men were readily engaged, but the emigration agent at Launceston wrote to me on the 28th ultimo, that he had "still the greater number of the families on hand;" and he has at various times stated it to be useless to send more Irish families there, having expressed the same opinion before any were forwarded.

Various persons were, however, of a different opinion, considering that Launceston ought to have a fair proportion of the emigrants sent out, and that they would be engaged; and the Government, desirous to adopt any means which appeared to present a prospect of affording employment to the emigrants, embarked about 150 souls for Launceston in the steamer "Tasmania," but she having struck the ground on the voyage, put back to Hobart Town, and accounts from Launceston being discouraging, the emigrants remained here.

There remain at present disengaged at Hobart Town,

	Per Kingston.	Maitland.	Caroline Middleton.
Married men	3	-	20
Married women	3	-	20
Single men	-	-	1
Single women with their relations	-	widow 1	14
Children under 14 years	8	3	33
	14	4	88
Single women in the depôt	1	3	26

And in addition to these, nearly the whole of the emigrants by the "Columbus" and "Moultan" are for engagement.

The whole of the single women in the depôt, not under the charge of relatives are as follows:—

Kingston	1	-	30
Maitland	3	Columbus	77
Caroline Middleton	26	Moultan	61
	30	Total	168

TASMANIA.

6. With regard to the prospect of engagement for the emigrants. I beg to observe that there being few other female servants in the colony, the single females have not to compete for employment with other labours, as in the case of the men, and I think all may eventually be engaged subject to the payment of 3 *l.*, though many of them, being Irish women of a very rough description, will be likely to experience long delay in finding employment.

The single men will also, I think, be employed subject to that payment.

The families will, I fear, experience much greater difficulty, but a larger proportion of them have been engaged within the last few days than previously, and as the busy time of the year is drawing near, they may be gradually absorbed. The cash payment is however, a very great disadvantage to them, and had it remained at the original rate I do not think the colonists would have employed many of them. The pressing difficulty is the want of accommodation for the families on leaving the ships, especially as other arrivals may be anticipated, and the "Duchess of Northumberland" is nearly due.

The depôt affords little space for families, and was originally intended and arranged exclusively for single females. Part of the emigrants are now occupying a small iron store, the use of which has been kindly given by Mr. Hall. This may be rented at the rate of 200 *l.* per annum. The upper portion of the Brickfields buildings may be obtained, comprising about seventy sleeping places, but the situation is inconvenient, and it would be necessary to purchase water.

7. With regard to the system itself, I am not perhaps called upon to submit any observations. The payment required is objected to by employers, as made for a servant whose qualifications and character they have very imperfect means of ascertaining, and from whose introduction the employer may obtain no advantage beyond the public in general, as the servant may not suit him. The constant inquiry is what means, in such a case, the employer has of recovering his money; and the only answer which can be given is "none whatever."

On the nature of the system I had the honour of submitting some observations when called on to do so, when the passing of an Indented Emigrants Act was first contemplated, and which still appear to me founded upon sufficient grounds, so far as they apply to the modified payment.

I have, &c.

(signed) *John D. Loch*,
Immigration Agent.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 7.

CONDITION of the Bounty Immigration System of Van Diemen's Land, up to 31 October 1854.

	ON DEPOSIT.		BLANK TICKETS.	
	Family Tickets.	Single Tickets.	Family Tickets.	Single Tickets.
1854: February—Issued to Henry Dowling, Esq., for Launceston Immigration Society	60	40	—	—
„ May—To Alexander Learmouth, Esq., St. Andrew's Society, Launceston	100	300	—	—
„ May—To William Kuchner, Esq, for Emigrants from Germany	-	-	100	200
„ June—Rev. James Griffith and William William, Esqrs., for Emigrants from Wales	-	-	50	100
„ June—Joseph Bonny, Esq., for Emigrants from the United Kingdom, chiefly mechanics and domestic servants, two-thirds for Hobart Town, and one-third for Launceston	-	-	50	100
To individuals up to 31st October 1854	583	823	—	—
TOTAL	743	1,163	200	400
Less Bounty Tickets acted on - 5 „ cancelled - 1	6	acted on 3	—	—
Deposits received on 743 Family Tickets, £. 3,715 „ 1,163 Single Tickets - 3,489	Total to be acted on - 737	1,160	200	400
TOTAL - - - £. 7,204				

Under this system 369 persons have sent for relations.

John D. Loch,
Immigration Agent.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 7.

STATEMENT of Immigration at the Expense of the Government of Van Diemen's Land, from Victoria.

	Married.		Single.		Children 7 and under 14.		Children 1 and under 7.		Children under 1.		Souls Male and Female.		Total Souls.	Passage Money.	Commissiou and Advertising at Melbourne.	Total Expense.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
From 6th May (commencement) to 31st December 1853 - - - -	67	67	390	40	22	14	26	29	10	6	515	156	671	2,291 17 6	337 6 –	2,629 3 6
From 1st January to 31st October 1854 - - -	65	65	565	25	13	13	21	28	4	6	669	136	805	2,533 13 6	about 400 – –	2,933 13 6
TOTAL - - - £.	132	132	955	65	35	27	47	57	14	12	1,184	292	1,476	4,825 11 –	737 6 –	5,562 17 –

The rate of passage-money has been from 3 *l.* to 3 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.* per statute adult.

Statute Adults - - 1,380.

John D. Loch,
Immigration Agent.

Sub-Enclosure 3, to Enclosure in No. 7.

STATEMENT of Emigrants under the System of Indented Emigration, Arrived in Van Diemen's Land, up to 31 October 1854.

Date of Arrival.	NAME OF SHIP.	Married.		Single.		Children 7 and under 14.		Children 1 and under 7.		Children under 1.		Souls Male and Female.		Total Souls.
1854:		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
26 August -	Kingston - - - - - - -	46	46	25	145	21	23	20	11	4	4	116	229	345
16 September -	Maitland - - - - - - -	48	49	15	109	21	26	15	18	1	2	100	204	304
29 September -	Caroline Middleton - - - - -	49	51	32	144	23	22	16	15	6	5	126	237	363
27 October -	Columbus - - - - - -	24	24	4	105	7	8	4	4	2	2	41	143	184
30 October -	Moultan - - - - - - -	36	36	28	100	15	17	8	12	3	3	90	168	258
	TOTAL - - -	203	206	104	603	87	96	63	60	16	16	473	981	1,454

John D. Loch,
Immigration Agent.

Sub-Enclosure 4, to Enclosure in No. 7.

STATEMENT of the Native Countries and Religious Denominations of the Emigrants under the System of Indented Emigration, arrived in Van Diemen's Land up to 31 October 1854.

NAME OF SHIP.	Married.		Single.		Children, 7 and under 14.		Children, 1 and under 7.		Children under 1.		Total Souls.
SHIP "KINGSTON."	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
England - - - - - - - - - -	19	18	16	10	11	13	11	5	1	2	106
Scotland - - - - - - - - - -	1	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	- -	3
Ireland - - - - - - - - - -	26	27	9	135	10	10	9	5	3	2	236
TOTAL - - -	46	46	25	145	21	23	20	11	4	4	345
Protestants - - - - - - - -	27	26	16	40	16	16	13	7	1	3	165
Roman-catholics - - - - - - -	19	20	9	105	5	7	7	4	3	1	180
TOTAL - - -	46	46	25	145	21	23	20	11	4	4	345

(*continued*)

STATEMENT of the Native Countries and Religious Denomination of the Emigrants, &c.—*continued.*

NAME OF SHIP.	Married.		Single.		Children 7 and under 14.		Children 1 and under 7.		Children under 1.		TOTAL SOULS.
SHIP "MAITLAND."	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
England	6	5	4	4	7	10	2	4	-	1	43
Scotland	5	5	2	2	4	4	4	2	-	-	28
Ireland	37	39	9	103	10	12	9	12	1	1	233
TOTAL	48	49	15	109	21	26	15	18	1	2	304
Protestants	16	14	8	16	13	16	9	7	-	1	100
Roman-catholics	32	35	7	93	8	10	6	11	1	1	204
TOTAL	48	49	15	109	21	26	15	18	1	2	304
SHIP "CAROLINE MIDDLETON."											
England	4	4	7	6	4	4	3	-	1	-	33
Scotland	14	15	19	4	7	4	5	10	2	-	80
Ireland	31	32	6	134	12	14	8	5	3	5	250
TOTAL	49	51	32	144	23	22	16	15	6	5	363
Protestants	24	28	25	34	16	10	11	12	4	-	164
Roman-catholics	25	23	7	110	7	12	5	3	2	5	199
TOTAL	49	51	32	144	23	22	16	15	6	5	363
SHIP "COLUMBUS."											
England	7	7	3	7	5	4	2	2	1	1	39
Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ireland	17	17	1	97	2	4	2	2	1	1	144
Other Country (Cape of Good Hope)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	24	24	4	105	7	8	4	4	2	2	184
Protestants	10	9	3	15	5	1	3	2	1	1	50
Roman-catholics	14	15	1	90	2	7	1	2	1	1	134
TOTAL	24	24	4	105	7	8	4	4	2	2	184
SHIP "MOULTAN."											
England	10	10	14	8	7	4	2	6	2	-	63
Scotland	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Ireland	26	26	10	91	7	13	6	6	1	3	189
Other Country	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	36	36	28	100	15	17	8	12	3	3	258
Protestants	15	13	20	26	10	6	3	7	3	-	103
Roman-catholics	21	23	8	74	5	11	5	5	-	3	155
TOTAL	36	36	28	100	15	17	8	12	3	3	258
AGGREGATE STATEMENT OF NATIVE COUNTRIES AND RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS:											
England	46	44	44	35	34	35	20	17	5	4	284
Scotland	20	21	25	7	11	8	9	13	2	-	116
Ireland	137	141	35	560	41	53	34	30	9	12	1,052
Other Countries	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
TOTAL	213	206	104	603	87	96	63	60	16	16	1,454
Protestants	92	90	72	131	60	49	39	35	9	5	582
Roman-catholics	111	116	32	472	27	47	24	25	7	11	872
TOTAL	203	206	104	603	87	96	63	60	16	16	1,454

John D. Loch, Immigration Agent.

Sub-Enclosure 5, to Enclosure in No. 7.

TRADES or Calling of the Male Emigrants under the System of Indented Emigration, who arrived in Van Diemen's Land, up to 31 October 1854.

TRADE or CALLING.	Ship "Kingston."		Ship "Maitland."		Ship "Caroline Middleton."		Barque "Columbus."		Ship "Moultan."		Total Married and Single.		GRAND TOTAL.
	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.	
Farm Bailiffs	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	6
Agricultural Labourers	22	12	22	8	25	15	12	-	22	13	103	48	151
Gardeners	2	1	2	-	2	2	1	-	2	-	9	3	12
Shepherds	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	4
Herdsmen	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	4
Labourers	10	4	9	3	1	5	-	2	1	8	21	22	43
Domestic Servants	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	2
Grooms and Coachmen	1	-	2	-	2	2	4	1	-	1	9	4	13
Tailors	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Boot and Shoemakers	-	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	4	2	6
Butchers	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	3
Bakers	-	-	2	1	1	3	-	-	-	2	4	5	9
Sawyers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carpenters	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	3	-	3	1	10	2	12
Brickmakers	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Masons	2	1	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	5	2	7
Bricklayers	3	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	6	2	8
Blacksmiths	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	1	5	3	8
Wheelwrights	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Quarrymen	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Coopers	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
Painters	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Chairmakers	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Curriers	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Cordwainers	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Clockmaker	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Shopmen	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Plumbers	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
TOTAL	46	25	48	15	49	32	24	4	36	28	203	104	307

J. D. Loch,
Immigration Agent.

Sub-Enclosure 6, to Enclosure in No. 7.

TRADES and Calling of the Single Female Emigrants under the System of Indented Emigration, who have arrived in Van Diemen's Land, up to 31 October 1854.

TRADE and CALLING.	Ship "Kingston."	Ship "Maitland."	Ship "Caroline Middleton."	Barque "Columbus."	Ship "Moultan."	TOTAL.
Governesses	-	-	1	2	-	3
Housekeepers	2	-	3	-	1	6
Milliners and Dressmakers	4	7	8	3	5	27
Needlewomen	6	2	-	3	2	13
Professed Cooks	2	1	-	2	-	5
Professed Laundresses	2	2	5	2	5	16
Plain Cooks	13	-	13	9	7	42
Housemaids	48	26	21	9	9	113
Nurserymaids	21	13	16	11	8	69
Farmhouse and Dairy-maids	24	21	48	21	39	153
Domestic Servants	18	37	27	40	23	145
Bonnet-makers	1	-	-	-	-	1
Shop Women	3	-	2	-	1	6
Waistcoat-makers	1	-	-	-	-	1
Tailoress	-	-	-	1	-	1
Nurses (Sick)	-	-	-	2	-	2
TOTAL	145	109	144	105	100	603

J. D. Loch,
Immigration Agent.

TASMANIA.

(No. 95.) — No. 8. —

No. 8.
Governor Sir W. Denison to Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart.
30 December 1854.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *William Denison* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Van Diemen's Land, Government House,
30 December 1854.
(Received, 17 March 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 43, 2 July 1855, page 232.)

30 December 1854.

I forward, herewith, as bearing upon the subject of my despatch No. 93, dated this day, the copy of a report made to the Colonial Secretary by the immigration agent, relative to two female emigrants, sisters, named respectively Eliza and Anne Ward, who arrived here in the "Duchess of Northumberland" emigrant ship, and the cost of whose passage appears to have been defrayed out of funds transmitted from this colony to the Land and Emigration Commissioners.

One of these immigrants will be, I am afraid, a permanent charge upon the colony, as the weakness of her intellect will, of course, incapacitate her from earning her livelihood, and though her sister may, perhaps, assist her, yet as she cannot be compelled to do so, and as she herself is not likely to obtain high wages, the probability appears to be that the colony, in addition to the cost of the passage of these people, will have to pay an annuity of upwards of 20 *l.* per annum on the life of the eldest sister.

Judging from the report of the immigration agent, it would appear that these young women do not belong to the class from which emigrants to these colonies should be selected, and as any mistake arising from the carelessness or inadvertence of the agents of the Land and Emigration Commissioners has the effect of saddling the colony with an expense which it is not well able to bear, this would seem to be an additional reason for the adoption of a system similar to that upon which the Colonial Government is at present acting, by which the whole of the responsibility and expense, with the exception of the cost of the passage, is thrown upon the individual by whom, or by whose agent the emigrants are selected.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Denison.*

Enclosure in No. 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Immigration Office, Hobart Town,
20 December 1854.

Sir,

In conformity with your instructions of this date, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Lieutenant-governor, the circumstances I have been able to collect relative to Eliza and Anne Ward, who arrived as emigrants by the "Duchess of Northumberland," on the 6th instant.

The elder sister, Eliza, is stated in the ship list to be 39 years of age, but appears to be older. She is in weak health, and deranged in intellect, though perfectly inoffensive. It is possible that annoyance experienced from the great number of young women among whom she has for some months lived, and the want of quiet, may have increased the disorder of her mind; but I think I may safely express the opinion that she must, before leaving the United Kingdom, have been of unsound intellect, and she is described by the surgeon-superintendent, and others, as having been so throughout the voyage. She is, in my opinion, perfectly incapable of doing anything to maintain herself, and I consider her obtaining service, as utterly out of the question.

The younger sister is also of inferior mental capacity, and simple in her demeanour and conversation, but if relieved from the charge of her sister would probable be able to undertake the charge of young children as nurse-maid.

She informs me that the two sisters for some years kept a penny a day-school for young children in Dublin, and that they were assisted by an uncle, named Shaw, an attorney in Dublin; but that on his decease, about six months ago, they were sent out as emigrants by their aunt-in-law, who I understand to be Mr. Shaw's widow; whether he made any provision for them by will, the younger sister is not aware.

They are provided with a certificate of good conduct and capability, signed by H. and J. Bagot, of which I beg to annex a copy, and state that Mr. Bagot is their cousin, and a wine merchant in Dublin.

The younger has also a certificate, signed by Miss Curry, as having attended a Sunday school class (copy attached). This last is not dated, but the address upon each of the certificates would facilitate inquiries. The youngest has stated that they received assistance from their

their aunt, Mr. Bagot's mother, but, that she also died; and she concludes that they were sent out of the way, because they were poor, and their relatives were ashamed of them.

They brought out with them a letter to Mr. Deakin of this town, which stated that another letter containing particulars regarding them would be found enclosed.

This letter he has, however, been unable to find, and is uncertain whether it was ever sent, though he may, possibly, have lost it.

Mr. Deakin expresses himself desirous of assisting these two females, but at a loss how to do so.

They are at present in the depôt for single women.

The younger sister states that the passage-money was paid for the elder, Eliza, as she could not otherwise obtain a passage. Of this, however, there is no record, and as both have signed the usual indenture, and they are each liable to repay 13 *l.* in this colony, I consider that they came out on the same terms as the other immigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John D. Loch,*
Immigration Agent

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

28, Waltham-street, Dublin, 5 August 1854.

Eliza and Anne Ward, about proceeding to Hobart Town (V. D. L.), have been known to me since their childhood; they have invariably conducted themselves with strict correctness and propriety, and we are sure that they will be found useful and faithful in any situation they may undertake in the above colony.

(signed) *H.* and *J. Bagot.*

(A true copy.)
(signed) *John D. Loch,*
Immigration Agent.

(No date).

The bearer, Anne Ward, has been in my class in St. Mark's Sunday School for many years; I believe her to be a most upright and conscientious person; I regret losing her from my class.

(signed) *L. Curry.*

7, Windsor Terrace, Dublin.

(A true copy.)
(signed) *J. D. Loch.*

Anne Ward states that this certificate was written two days before they left Dublin, which was on the 5th August last; Anne Ward states that Miss Curry's name is Letitia.

— No. 9. —

(No. 37.)

No. 9.
Governor Sir H. E. F. Young, to the Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart.
30 March 1855.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey,* Bart.

Government House, Hobart Town,
30 March 1855.
(Received, 2 July 1855.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 20, 21 September 1855, page 235.)

In my predecessor's despatch, No. 95, of the 30th December 1854, report was made of two incapable emigrants having been despatched to this island under the Regulations of the Land and Emigration Commissioners.

They arrived in the ship "Duchess of Northumberland," and are named Anne and Eliza Ward.

The emigration agent has to-day reported that, after great difficulty, he has at length been enabled to effect an arrangement for their employment and maintenance, by which an expense of 30 *l.* per annum is entailed on the public.

This arrangement is described in the enclosed correspondence, and it is suggested that application should be made by the Land and Emigration Commissioners to obtain repayment of this annual allowance from the relatives of the emigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. F. Young.*

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Enclosure in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Macquarie-street, 20 March 1855.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I am willing to take, on trial, the two immigrants, Anne and Eliza Ward, into my service, on the following terms; that is, to give the younger sister 10*l.* per annum, if she is capable of earning her livelihood, and to clothe and maintain the other sister, provided the Government (as she is almost imbecile and cannot be separated from her sister) would allow me such a sum as would be required to maintain her elsewhere. Of course, if I find that both sisters are incapable of service, I must return them to the care of the Government. I can only say I shall do my best to enable them to maintain themselves respectably.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James E. Deakin.*

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 10. —

No. 10.
Governor Sir H. E. F. Young, to Sir G. Grey, Bart.
27 January 1855.

(No. 42.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Hobart Town,
10 April 1855.
(Received, 26 July 1855.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour of transmitting the enclosed Report on Immigration for the half-year ended 31 December 1854.

27 January 1855.

2. The system of indenting immigrants under which the Land and Emigration Commissioners have hitherto despatched emigrant vessels to this island has now virtually ceased, inasmuch as the Commissioners are supposed to have expended all the funds remitted to them from hence, and the bounty ticket system, reported by my predecessor in his despatches, No. 66,* of the 3d May 1854, and No. 93,† of the 30th December 1854, is now in operation.

Certain alterations proposed by Mr. Loch, the emigration agent, and others, which further experience of the system may suggest, may no doubt modify it from time to time; but on the whole the system bids fair to answer the expectations formed of it, as one preferable to any other hitherto in operation.

* *Vide* House of Commons Paper, No. 42, Session 1855, P. 76.

† Page 195.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. F. Young.*

Encl. in No. 10.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Immigration Office, Hobart Town,
27 January 1855.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to make the following report (*a*) on immigration, for the half-year ending 31 December 1854, for the information of his Excellency the Governor.

2. During the past half-year, eight emigrant ships have arrived in the colony, chartered by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, the first of which brought chiefly emigrants under the Regulations of 4 May 1853, for the introduction of the relatives and friends of persons in the labouring classes, and the others, emigrants under the system of indented emigration.

The number of souls introduced by these eight vessels, amounts to 2,146, of whom the tabular particulars are comprised in Returns 1, 2, and 3 hereto attached.

Ninety-six souls have been introduced under the Bounty Regulations of 24th January 1854, as shown in Returns Nos. 1, 2, and 3.

Two hundred and ten souls have been introduced under the Regulations of 22 October 1852, as in Returns 1, 2, 3, and 822 souls from Victoria, according to Return No. 4.

The general summary is given in Return No. 5, amounting to 3,274 souls, and a general average of wages in No. 10.

3. Four subjects will require to be brought particularly under the notice of his Excellency.

1st. The system of indented emigration commenced during the past half-year.
2d. The nature and the suspension of immigration from Victoria.
3d. The bounty system of 24th January 1854.
4th. The consideration of measures in connexion with future immigration.

4. First,

(*a*) The Enclosures to this Report being very voluminous are not printed.

4. First, with regard to the system of indented emigration. The families have experienced great difficulty in obtaining engagements, and even the single women, though much more readily hired, have been engaged far more slowly than might have been expected, with reference to the long-existing scarcity of female servants. As concerns the families, various causes have contributed to this. The immigration commenced at the most unfavourable season of the year, viz., that between the putting in of the crops and the beginning of harvest. Many colonists have sent home for servants, under the bounty system, whom they expect soon to arrive. The families are in many cases large, the expense of conveying them up the country, and of supporting them, is very considerable; and the colonists in general have not suitable accommodation for families. The want of labour has been less felt of late, in consequence of the diminished inducements presented by the gold fields of Victoria, and the increase of the working population in that colony; and certain classes of persons are less employed, because the high price of provisions and labour has compelled many of the colonists to limit, as far as possible, the employment of servants and working people; while the same causes prevent many from engaging in building, fencing, and other expensive operations; and the unprecedented importation of manufactured articles, which in a great measure arose from a scarcity of labour, limits, for the present, the demand for mechanics and tradesmen.

These circumstances have contributed to the difficulty experienced by the families; but the causes which have chiefly impeded the hiring both of the families and the single women, have been the unfavourable opinion entertained by the colonists of the emigrants sent out, and the nature of the system under which they have arrived, together with the rate of wages expected by the emigrants, who, not being prepared to acknowledge any inferiority in themselves, not unfrequently demand the highest amount, or even more than is current, and this the colonists refuse to give.

5. With regard to the objections raised to the emigrants, there is a great unwillingness, on the part of the colonists, to engage Irish servants, who are considered generally as an inferior description of labour, and concerning whom constant objections have been made, as being Roman-catholics, the bulk of the employers being Protestants; and there is a great wish to obtain English and Lowland Scotch emigrants. Had an equal number of properly qualified emigrants arrived from those countries, they would not, in my opinion have experienced, even under the indenture system, the same difficulty in obtaining employment; and had they arrived free from the conditions of that system, I believe they would have been readily engaged.

Public opinion has been most unequivocally expressed with regard to the emigrants thus introduced. It is admitted that there are, among the men, very useful persons, and many of good character; but, generally they are considered as not possessing either the qualifications or the habits which would render them a valuable addition to the population. With the single women, too, very great dissatisfaction has been expressed. The statements made to the immigration agent are to the effect, that they are regarded generally as rough, ignorant women, comparatively few of whom are even moderately acquainted with the requirements of domestic service, and whose incorrigibly dirty and slovenly habits, and unwillingness or incapacity to receive instruction, make it hopeless to render them orderly and good servants, but who, nevertheless, even while confessing their inability to perform the services most ordinarily required, consider themselves entitled to wages which would be high for trained and efficient persons. It cannot be doubted that the greatest dissatisfaction pervades the colony with regard to the description of emigrants who are sent out, and the extracts which I beg to append from a letter from a well known colonist, express views which are generally entertained on this point, though he evidently is not aware of the practical difficulties with which the system of indented immigration is attended.

The position I hold affording me better opportunities of forming an opinion upon the description of the emigrants introduced than is possessed by other individuals, it would not, I think, be proper that I should remain silent with regard to it. Every one of the emigrants, male and female, has been individually inspected and questioned by myself, and I cannot withhold the opinion that the views of the colonists are substantially correct; the conclusion is unavoidable, that the generality of the agricultural labourers are not such as persons engaged in farming would willingly employ; no one of experience who ever sees a group of them standing together, can be mistaken on this point, and they contrast unfavourably with emigrants introduced by individual colonists; and the wives and children are very commonly unable to contribute useful labour.

Among the single women, although a large proportion of them may confidently be said to be persons of fair character, and a few to possess superior character, and to be in every respect unexceptionable, yet the bulk of them are certainly more or less such as the general estimation of the colonists pronounces them to be. It is true that many state that they have been in service, but it is quite evident that those services have been generally of an inferior description, and that the women are extensively taken from a very low class, and are not unfrequently of indifferent, and sometimes of bad character.

The greatest proportion of useful female servants arrived by the two first ships, the "Kingston" and the "Maitland."

I may here beg to observe, that women taken from the Irish Unions, or brought up to out-door farm labour, are not the class of persons required by the colonists. The union women are regarded as inferior even by their fellow-emigrants, and the country girls of the "Mooltan" expressed much unwillingness to be associated in the depôt at Hobart Town with

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with the Cork Union women by the "Columbus," and much surprised that no distinction should be made between them. The women sought for above all others are such as can cook a plain dinner in a cleanly and satisfactory manner, and wash and iron the clothes of a family tolerably; also such as can perform the duties of a housemaid neatly, and good plain needlewomen, who are able likewise to act as housemaids or nursemaids. Very few of the women sent out stated themselves to be able to cook at all, and comparatively a very small number possessessed an adequate, or, I should rather say, any knowledge of service.

In submitting these observations, I am perfectly aware that much difficulty must attend the obtaining of good female servants for the colonies; but if defects are not brought to notice, the authorities, in whom the chief management is vested, may remain unaware of the necessity for improvement.

6. I have submitted above, that the hiring of the indented emigrants has been impeded not only by the description of the emigrants themselves, but by the nature of the system under which they have arrived; and as the system of indented emigration has been established on new principles, and has been brought into operation under my immediate observation, it will, I conceive, be proper that I should submit some remarks upon the nature of the system, and the results of the trial which it has undergone.

This system of immigration, originating in New South Wales, is based upon the following suppositions:—

1st. That "the necessity which has hitherto existed to hold out extraordinary inducements to intending emigrants, with a view to their selecting these colonies as a future home, has entirely ceased," and, therefore, that country mechanics (blacksmiths, bricklayers, carpenters, masons, sawyers, wheelwrights, and gardeners), would be found willing to pay 15 *l.* of their passage-money (5*l.* at home, and 10 *l.* in the colony); and all other males, and even single females, 13 *l.* (1 *l.* at home, and 12 *l.* in the colony); and also to be bound by rules with regard to taking service.

2d. That the emigrants would themselves be able to find employers, or, failing this, that the immigration agent would be able to find for them, and to bind them out to employers willing to take them with or without their consent, paying down one-half of the amount for which the emigrant might be liable in the colony, and giving a promissory note, payable in 12 months, for the remainder, with the knowledge that he could not claim repayment, except by deduction from the wages of the immigrant in eight equal quarterly sums within the space of two years; and thus, not only that the required payment should be obtained, but a second object, scarcely subordinate to the former, would be secured, viz., "that the immigrant sent out at the expense of the colony should give the colony the benefit of his labour for a moderate period."

With regard to the first supposition, although it may possibly be unnecessary to hold out inducements either to resort to New South Wales, or to remain there, it is in this colony generally considered that the time has not arrived when inducements to emigrants of a suitable class, to make it their home, may be dispensed with; but that, on the contrary, it is desirable to afford every facility and encouragement to emigrants of a superior description to resort to Van Diemen's Land, and to provide, as far as possible, for their remaining in it, as it is notorious that many leave Van Diemen's Land for the neighbouring colonies. This principle, therefore, of the system is inapplicable to Van Diemen's Land.

The recent arrivals have undoubtedly shown that persons may be induced to emigrate, subject to the payments and conditions required by this system; but public opinion most unequivocally regards these (considering them generally) as emigrants of an inferior grade; and it is within my own knowledge that these persons have come out under very exaggerated ideas of the rate of wages current in the colony, and many of them with the intention of taking the first opportunity to join relations or friends in Victoria or New South Wales, or to proceed to the gold countries. Admitting, however, that suitable emigrants might be found willing, with an accurate knowledge of the prospects before them, as regards wages, to come out, subject to the conditions of the system, which is very possible, for at first view, as is observed in the report of the Emigration Commissioners upon the system, "the objection only amounts to this, that the emigrant will serve for two years, at fair wages, a master chosen, if he so pleases, by himself, if not, by a Government officer, and during that period will repay a sum for which he has received more than an equivalent." It was plainly necessary to the system that adequate means should have been provided for enforcing the presumed payments, which it will be seen has not been done; and in following this subject, it will also be perceived that there are not adequate means for securing the second object proposed, viz., the obliging the emigrants to remain in service for a certain period.

Reverting, therefore, to the second supposition on which the system is founded, viz., that employers will be willing to receive emigrants, making the prescribed payments on their account, it has been in this colony proved that employers will not do so.

On the arrival of the "Kingston" with the first of these emigrants, some few families and single men were engaged, and some others paid the required amount themselves; but, with those exceptions, they remained unengaged, and uninquired for. A larger proportion of single women were engaged, on account of the great necessity for servants of that description, but even of these the number was comparatively small. The whole of the numerous persons who communicated with me on this subject expressed their repugnance to the system, and a strong sense of the injustice of requiring from employers the prescribed

scribed payments. The question universally put to me was, what means the employer had of recovering this money, if the emigrant, of whose character and qualifications he had very imperfect and generally no means of informing himself, proved unfit for his service, if he either could not or would not be useful, or if the agreement were cancelled by the decision of magistrates? and it was unavoidable that I should inform them, that neither the indenture entered into by the emigrant, nor the local Act on the subject, afforded any means of recovering the amount of the required payment, except by deduction from wages becoming due in the service of the (first) employer, and therefore that there was no remedy in the cases supposed.

One gentleman, a well known solicitor, came to me, anxious to be put in the way of obtaining the services of several men, but on learning the nature of the regulations, declared that he would have nothing to do with them, and would never offer a premium to a man to misconduct himself in his service. Such was the general feeling, and this is in fact the real state of the case. For the liability of the emigrant to repay the prescribed portion of his passage-money is confined to the deduction from his wages in the service of his original employer; and, therefore, if he thinks proper to make himself so useless or troublesome that the first employer is glad to get rid of him, which he may do without bringing himself within reach of the law, he frees himself altogether from the liability of repayment, and is at perfect liberty to engage with another master, or to leave the colony at his own discretion, transferring, in fact, his liability to the original employer, who has paid down one-half of the claim against the emigrant, and given his promissory note for the other half, which he must pay whether the emigrant remains in his service or not.* The employers also objected to a system which required them to engage servants for a long period at the current wages of the day, which were then exorbitant, with the knowledge that wages were falling, and must within a short period become considerably lower.

It thus appears that the second supposition on which the system was founded, viz., that employers would be willing to receive the emigrants on the prescribed terms, and that the payments on account of the passage-money could be obtained was erroneous, and that the system could not be carried out.

The Government, finding this to be the case, and that the public would not hire the emigrants, resolved on reducing the deposits required from employers to 5 *l.* for a family, including the children under 14 years, and 3 *l.* for a single emigrant of 14 years or upwards (according nearly with the scale of the bounty regulations), on consideration that if an emigrant should leave the colony within four years he should pay up the balance of his original liability; which new arrangement had the further effect of relieving the employer from the necessity of retaining the servant for a long period, in order to recover his money.

This reduction in the rate of payment had a beneficial effect on the hiring of the emigrants, a greater disposition having been manifested to engage the families, though this has from the first, up to the present time, proceeded slowly, and a very evident increase took place in the number of single women engaged, so that at the end of the year, of all the emigrants who arrived by the seven vessels under this system specified in Return No. 1, there remained undisposed of the following numbers, the "William Hammond" having arrived a few days previously with 257 souls.

Married couples	120	souls.
Single men and lads	13	„
Single women	180	„
Children	104	„
At Hobart Town and Launceston, Total Souls	417	

The public, however, have continued up to the present time, to express themselves greatly dissatisfied with even the reduced rates of payment. A considerable number of emigrants were forwarded at the expense of Government to Launceston, on the supposition that they might more readily obtain employment there. The employers of that neighbourhood, however, manifested the same unwillingness to engage them, as was experienced at Hobart Town; and having during the last two months heard the sentiments of great numbers of persons on the subject, and observed the exasperation frequently manifested when a servant for whom the deposit has been paid proves incompetent to the duties undertaken, or useless, as is often the

* The New South Wales Act does indeed provide that an emigrant shall be liable for advances made on his account, but to enforce this, he must be traced and found, and formal proceedings taken, at probably much loss of time and expense, after which it would probably prove that the emigrant was destitute of means of repayment. The Van Diemen's Land Act does not contain this clause. In like manner, clause IX of the New South Wales Act, provides that a person employing, &c., an emigrant while under contract to an employer who shall have paid, &c., shall be liable to pay such employer at the rate of 5 *s.* per day, up to 15 *l.*; but if the first employer is glad to let the emigrant go, he cannot proceed against a labourer, &c.; in any case he must trace and find the emigrant, and appear against him at perhaps much inconvenience and loss of valuable time, and must prove him to have been employed or harboured, and if the justices think the second employer not guilty of undue negligence, the first employer will obtain nothing. This clause is also not in the Van Diemen's Land Act. It is plain that the difficulty of proving undue negligence must in many or most instances under this provision be valueless.

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the case, I cannot avoid being impressed with the inexpediency, as well as the injustice, of requiring a deposit from an employer for a servant whose qualifications he has at best very imperfect means, and probably no means of ascertaining, and from whose services he may derive no benefit; and I am thus confirmed in the belief, which I have on former occasions submitted, that the whole community being benefited by the introduction of emigrants, such part of the expense as is not borne directly by the emigrant himself, should be paid from the general revenue, with the exception of such deposits as those required by the bounty regulations as necessary to secure that the applicant shall have a real interest in the application, and to prevent traffic in bounty tickets. Under the bounty regulation, the person who pays a deposit has the means of ascertaining the qualifications of the servants, and the probability of his suiting his service through his agent at home; but in the case of emigrants arriving under the indented regulations he has no such means.

I have no doubt that even the reduced rate of payment greatly impedes the engagement of both families and single females, other causes contribute to prevent it; but this cause places the emigrants at a great disadvantage, in competing for employment with other labour, for which no deposit is to be paid, and this is particularly the case with mechanics, for as it is not customary to engage such persons for longer periods than the day, or week, and masters object to doing so, it follows, as a matter of course, that the mechanics have great difficulty in finding any employer who will pay the deposit for them.

7. The possibility of failure on the latter part of the second supposition on which the system is founded, appears never to have been contemplated in framing the system, but this also has proved to be erroneous; viz., that the immigration agent would, in default of the emigrants themselves making engagements to service, be able to bind them out for two years to masters willing to make the prescribed payments on their account.

On many occasions when employers have represented to me that emigrants would not accept what the employer regarded as reasonable wages, I have offered to bind the emigrants to them on fair terms, and (except in one instance) the offer has invariably been refused; the employers always objecting, and almost in the same words, that if they were to take a man against his will, he would do them no good, and when it is considered that the expense of maintaining an industrious man, and an idle one, is the same, and regard is also had to the waste, destruction, damage by neglect, and the loss of time, which it is in the power of an unwilling servant to occasion to an employer, who is probably prevented by his presence from engaging a useful servant, the mutual ill feeling which will exist in such a case, together with the inconvenience, loss of time, and as far as the service of the employer is concerned, the uselessness of taking legal preceedings against servants; it must be admitted that the objection is well founded, and that a system based on such a principle cannot be attended with success; the same objections were made both under the original rate of payment, and the reduced scale subsequently adopted.

The exception I have alluded to is that of a young man who had refused several fair offers; on the last occasion of his doing so, he was bound out as a farm labourer, at 12 *s.* per week, with board and lodging. I had much difficulty in prevailing on the employer to receive him, and pressed it upon him, in the hope that the example might be beneficial; but I confess I have since regretted having done so, for it is probable that the young man would be compulsorily associated with fellow-servants of indifferent character, and he was separated from his sisters.

The example did not appear to exert any influence upon others.

8. It having been thus ascertained that the public will not hire the emigrants on the terms prescribed by the system, and will not receive them on the binding-out of the immigration agent, even on the reduced scale of payment, it follows, not only that the system cannot be carried out, but also that the emigrants have it in their power to take service at their own discretion, and the public the power to employ them exactly as if they had arrived in the colony free from any engagement or liability to payment.

It may be proper that I should explain more particularly the ground on which I submit this opinion.

I conceive that the emigrants cannot be required to do more than they engaged to do in England, as the condition on which they receive a passage.

They engage,—

1st. Within 14 days after their arrival either to repay the appointed portion of passage-money to the immigration agent, or to take service with his approval with an employer who will repay the money on their account, or in default of making the repayment or taking service within the 14 days.

2d. To submit afterwards to be bound out by the immigration agent for two years to an employer who will make the required payments.

This is all the emigrant agrees to do. Supposing, therefore, an emigrant to act up to the letter of his agreement, he is not compellable either to repay the money or take service before the end of the 14 days; when these have expired, he may tell the immigration agent that he is ready to submit to the second condition, viz., to be bound out by him. Supposing, then, that the immigration agent is unable to find an employer willing either to make an agreement with the emigrant by mutual consent, and pay the requisite sum of money for him, or willing to take him on the binding out of the immigration agent, the question comes at once to an issue. The emigrant is ready to do that which he agreed to do; the failure is with the immigration agent. How long is the emigrant to wait? Supposing that he now takes service with an employer who will not pay the money for him, and declares that

that he (the emigrant) is under no obligation to pay any part of the passage-money except through a master to whom he may be bound by the immigration agent, and refuses to make any such payment, is either the emigrant or the employer subject to any penalty? Or can the emigrant be made to pay without the intervention of an employer provided by the immigration agent? I confess I cannot see that anything can be done in either case. It appears to me that the man is free both from debt and from future obligation to be hired out—free to leave the colony, or to engage with any one he pleases, on such terms as they may agree upon.

There are now many emigrants in the depôt who cannot obtain service, and whom I cannot bind out, and I am unable to perceive that there is anything but their own sense of obligation to prevent these persons from engaging with any one who may be willing to hire them.

9. To go further. Let it be supposed that an emigrant on arrival at once declares his resolution to disregard the engagement he entered into in England, and that he does engage with an employer who will not pay the money due. In such a case, what is the remedy? He is allowed 14 days to make his own arrangements, and the immigration agent cannot interfere with him until that time has expired; after that period the emigrant is liable to be bound out by the immigration agent, but he is not bound to remain during the 14 days on board ship, or in the depôt, or in any other place, and at the end of the 14 days he may be a hundred miles away; but supposing the immigration agent can find him, who will agree to have a man bound out to him who is already in the service of another person.

The emigrant has not agreed to pay any part of his passage-money, except in two specified ways, viz., within the 14 days, either himself, or through an employer approved by the immigration agent, and if he does not adopt one of these courses within the given time, the penalty is, that he may be bound out, but experience has shown that he cannot be bound out, and the question now is, whether any other penalty or mode of recovering payment can be enforced against him.

Whether a civil action could be brought, or on what grounds it could be instituted, I do not pretend to be competent to express an opinion, but I am persuaded that such a course, if possible, is not of a practical nature, and would not be adopted, and the system being based on the supposition that the immigration agent can bind out the emigrants, who it has been supposed would thus be brought under the Master and Servants' Act, and might be compelled to work, while experience shows that he cannot, and therefore that the Act cannot reach them, there being no master, I do venture to think that the emigrants have the power of engaging with whom they please, and the public that of engaging them, as freely as if they had not arrived under indenture.

In fact, the system has been broken through by a well-known gentleman in Hobart Town.

This gentlemen wrote me that he had engaged a female emigrant under indenture, who, in consequence of having been prominent in a disturbance, had been sent from the depôt to the relatives or persons with whom she came out; he was told in reply, that it was presumed he was aware that she had arrived under the same terms with other emigrants, and that a payment was to be made for her. On the following day he came to my office, and informed me that he had engaged the woman, but had nothing to do with any payment, and that if I thought I had any claim upon her he would send her to me. He was informed that the demand was against him as the employer, but he repeated his former observations, and went away. He never did send the woman, and she is, to the best of my belief, now in his service.

This gentleman is certainly subject to no penalty, neither can any payment be recovered from him; and, as far as I am aware, the only mode of proceeding against the woman would be to bind her to some other service, and it is quite certain that no private family would take her on my binding, as the first step necessary for the new employer to take must be to institute proceedings at the police office to compel her to enter on the new service, including the trial of the point which of the two engagements would take precedence; so that, in fact, nothing can be done. In other instances the system has been very nearly broken through. In particular, the emigrants by the "Caroline Middleton" refused to sign the agreement to remain four years in the colony, and expressed their resolution to abide by the original agreement, although they were informed that the public would not engage them under it; and this they appeared, with a few exceptions, determined to adhere to, some of them asking significantly how long the Government would maintain them; thus manifesting their belief that Goverment must give way, and eventually release them altogether from liability to repayment. Finding this, I sent on board a formal notification through the surgeon-superintendent, that if any of the emigrants continued to refuse to sign the four years agreement, and come under the reduced scale of deposit, thus preventing the public from engaging them, and throwing on the Government the expense of their maintenance, I should, at the expiration of the 14 days, bind them out to any employer who would take them, at any wages which might be offered. This induced some to give up the point, and gradually they all did so, the leaders following the example last with great reluctance; but the schoolmaster, who had been principally instrumental in obtaining the signatures, was always afterwards regarded with great aversion by these emigrants, who termed him "a traitor to his country."

10. I have also to submit other defects which attend the system of indented emigration. Under

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Under ordinary systems if an emigrant in the depôt refuses a reasonable offer of employment, or will not assist in the requisite cleaning, or is disorderly, or neglects to be present during hiring hours, he may be struck off rations or summarily ejected; but under this system this cannot be done without a voluntary abandonment of all claim on the emigrant for repayment of his portion of passage-money, and consequently emigrants are not under sufficient control. Emigrants have frequently refused reasonable offers of service, and thus deterred the public from coming to engage themselves or others, which greatly increases the expense to Government for maintaining them; the places inhabited by the married persons are often exceedingly dirty; they encourage communication between the single women and sailors and others, and the passing in to them of messages and intoxicating liquors; and some of the men living in the depôt have even gone out to work by the day, and during hiring hours they frequently wander about the town; but such persons cannot be dismissed from the depôt on account of the payment to be received for them, and which would not be obtained if they were lost sight of. The stopping the rations of families has been once or twice resorted to; but if this were done to any great extent some of them would leave the establishment, and it would become generally apparent that the system could be broken through, and therefore it is necessary to avoid coming to extremities.

Ill feeling is also caused by the system, in addition to the great dissatisfaction frequently expressed by employers who have paid the deposit for useless servants. The emigrants regard those connected with this office rather as gaolers than protectors. It is a common expression among the young women when one of the number is engaged, to say that she is "sold;" and the emigrants are suspected of refusing to engage, when, in fact, they cannot meet with employment; they, in turn, considering that there is a desire to force them into any service to obtain the money for them.

The system of indented emigration has been plainly proved to be unsuited to this colony, where it cannot be carried out, and where it is universally disapproved of, as well by the employers as by the immigrants themselves, who attribute the difficulty they experience in obtaining employment in a very great measure to the payment required for them; and so evident were the defects of the system, that they were not only plainly perceived by the Government when it was understood to be in contemplation, but the results which have been practically experienced were submitted, in anticipation, in my memorandum of the 30th March last.

The receipts and expenditure on account of these emigrants to the end of 1854 are as follows:—

		£. s. d.
The repayments to the end of 1854 amount, after deducting 767 *l.*, returned to those from whom payments had been received, when the amount of deposit was reduced, to - - - - - - -		3,128 – –
The value of 27,327 rations, at about 12½ *d.* each -	£. 1,422 1 11	
Fuel, &c. - - - - - - - - -	55 5 1	
Extra rent, &c. - - - - - - - -	93 11 2	
Medical attendance in hospital, including food, &c. -	130 – –	
		1,700 18 2
Remainder - - - £.		1,427 1 10

The cost of conveying a part of these emigrants and their baggage, from Hobart Town to Launceston, has been 713*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.*; but this might have been incurred under any system.

11. The next subject which I have the honour to submit is that of immigration at the expense of Government from Victoria.

Returns Nos. 4 and 5, show the particulars and expense of this immigration, under which 822 persons have been introduced during the past half year.

The sudden influx of immigrants under the system of indented immigration, the difficulty they experienced in obtaining employment, and the entire occupation of the available lodging for emigrants, caused the Government to discontinue granting passages from Victoria; and the last of these emigrants arrived on the 1st November at Hobart Town, and the 21st October at Launceston.

On the general character of this immigration it is not in my power to report favourably.

The plan first adopted by the Government was, to transmit to the agent in Melbourne applications for servants from individuals in Van Diemen's Land, in order that the emigrants might be forwarded under engagements to service, the employer paying 1*l.* per adult on arrival, and the Government the remainder of the passage-money.

On this plan, however, emigrants were never introduced. The working people were found to be apprehensive of being engaged under unfavourable circumstances, consequently they have been sent over subject to no other stipulation than that they should take service in Van Diemen's Land.

Under this immigration, valuable persons have undoubtedly been obtained, but in a general view, the immigrants have been of an inferior description, and have consisted chiefly of single men, of no particular trade or capabilities, or not useful in their several callings: a considerable

considerable number have been persons reduced from better circumstances, others have come for the re-establishment of their health: passages have been obtained, to an extent of which I cannot speak with certainty, but which I believe to have been by no means inconsiderable, by persons possessed of ample means to bear their own expenses, and entertaining no intention of taking service. I have heard from many sources that it is usual for emigrants of this kind to return, after a short time, to Victoria.

The emigrants who have been received into the depôt at Hobart Town may generally be characterized as indisposed to regularity or control, frequently filthy in their persons and habits, and often even covered with vermin; and they very commonly refused to accept reasonable offers of service. Latterly they arrived in greater numbers, and were more troublesome, so that it was frequently necessary to withhold their rations, till the rules were complied with, or to expel them from the depôt for misconduct, or for refusing offers of service. A similar account is given by the immigration agent at Launceston of the emigrants sent to that place, to whom he has several times particularly adverted, as the refuse of Victoria, for whom it is difficult to obtain employment.

Considering that the object of the Government in paying the passage of emigrants from Victoria, has been to introduce a useful class of labouring persons into this colony, I must submit that this object has not hitherto, in my opinion, been attained; during the great scarcity of working people, which some time ago prevailed, it was doubtless important to obtain labour of almost any kind; but should it be at a future time decided again to open this immigration at the public expense, it will, I think, be deemed proper to adopt restrictions.

Hitherto the payment to the agent in Melbourne has consisted of a commission of 10*s.* for each statute adult sent over, which has amounted in the year 1854 to 637 *l.* 15 *s.* although the immigration has been suspended since the end of October. This mode of payment affords no security for the quality of the labour, but rather holds out an inducement to forward the greatest possible number of passable emigrants, with little regard to their suitableness; and I would submit whether it might not be preferable, in the event of the immigration being resumed, to appoint an agent with a fixed salary, who would attend exclusively to this subject, and be instructed not to forward any immigrants except of the description required. Notwithstanding the inferior description of emigrants hitherto obtained from Victoria, I must not neglect to submit, that the expense of introducing an emigrant from thence amounts to perhaps 4*l.*, while that of bringing one from England amounts to more than 20*l.*, as shown by the returns hereto attached.

12. The bounty system is the next subject on which I have the honour to report:—

During the past half year, emigrants have commenced arriving under the bounty regulations of the 23d January 1854, the first tickets having been certified for payment on the 2d September, for emigrants forwarded by the way of Melbourne to Launceston.

Return No. 7 shows the state of the bounty system, at the end of 1854, there being outstanding

Family Tickets - - - - - - -	757
Single Tickets - - - - - - -	1144
Blank Family Tickets - - - - - -	212
Blank Single Tickets - - - - - -	400

Return No. 8 sh
the number of
tickets issued in
each month du
the half year.

Regarding the system, I have not heard of any expression of disapprobation in the colony. So far as experience has yet extended, the expectations formed regarding it, have been realized, and there is every prospect that it will continue to operate beneficially.

It may be observed that the object of the system was to establish such rules for enabling colonists in want of servants to introduce them from Europe, and persons in the labouring classes to bring out their relatives or friends, as would promote an extensive immigration of these kinds, which was considered likely to be composed of persons suited to the wants of the colony, and who would remain in it, because it is not probable that employers will introduce servants unless under engagement to themselves; and persons introduced as relatives or friends, are likely to remain near those to whom they come.

It was also considered, that as the introduction of labour benefits the whole community, and the immediate introducer incurs much risk and trouble, that the chief expense should fall upon the general revenue, and no larger deposit be required from the introducer, than would tend to exclude applications not of a *bonâ fide* nature, and to prevent traffic in bounty tickets; and further, to secure these objects, it was provided that written application should in the first instance be made to the immigration agent, with a description of the emigrants to be introduced, he being authorized to satisfy himself, that the application came within the regulations, and in order better to provide for the remaining of the immigrants within the colony, each person above fourteen years of age was required to sign an agreement, either to remain four years in the colony, or repay the whole or a proportionate part of the cost of his introduction.

It was believed that under these provisions tickets would not be obtained, at least generally, except by persons having a real interest in the emigrants, as well as in their remaining in the colony.

And as a means of obtaining any particular description of labour, which might from time to time be required, or of advancing immigration generally, it was further provided, that blank bounty tickets might be issued to societies, agents, or individuals in Europe, approved by and acting under the instructions of the Government, and as no deposits could be obtained in such cases, the emigrants sent out under these tickets are required to sign a promissory note,

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note, payable six months after arrival, for an amount equivalent to the deposit ordinarily made.

It was anticipated that some of the large shipowners in the United Kingdom would find it worth their while to grant passages on bounty tickets, payable in the colony, at a reasonable rate, which, if it should even somewhat exceed the ordinary amount of passage-money for the time being, would yet be advantageous as giving to the bounty tickets the character of drafts on this treasury, in favour of the master or owner of the ship bringing the emigrants, and thus enabling individuals, and, in the case of blank bounty tickets, the Government, to dispense with remittances for passage-money, exchange, and various contingent expenses; also that the introduction of emigrants being thus facilitated, and the deposits reduced, that the colonists would be likely to send extensively for labour through agents of their own, and persons of the working classes to introduce their friends and relatives, and thus that whatever ties of relationship, interest, or friendship might exist between the colony and the mother country would be brought into operation for obtaining a superior class of emigrants, by the introduction of whom the great desideratum of a connexion with a serviceable order of the working classes in the United Kingdom would be gained, which would establish a current of emigration of good character to be in great measure carried on in future by means of this system through the instrumentality of persons who had themselves emigrated, and would induce their relatives and friends to follow them.

13. So far as time has allowed the results of the system to be seen, the anticipations regarding it have been realized; and though it is not improbable that of the large numbers of tickets shown in Return 7 to be outstanding, some may not be acted on, yet the approval and adoption of the regulations by the colony at large is fully demonstrated, and the introduction of a large amount of useful labour during the present year is to be expected.

Of the 696 applications for bounty tickets which have been received, 408 are from persons desirous of introducing their relatives or friends; among these are persons who came to the colony as emigrants, and notwithstanding the shortness of the time which has elapsed since the arrival of the recently-introduced emigrants, some of them have already taken out tickets, and many have expressed the intention of doing so. The colliers of the Mersey Company, in particular, have made application for the introduction of five intended wives, seven families, and nine relatives, and a considerable number of the single women have come out with the purpose of sending for relatives if the prospects of the colony should present sufficient inducement.

Some of the applications for the introduction of relatives have been from persons whose present circumstances might be deemed to require from them a larger contribution, but these instances are not numerous; I saw no reason to doubt that the persons to be introduced would be of the labouring class as represented, and I do not think it can prove otherwise in many cases.

Of the number of bounty tickets taken out as above stated, 160 family and 340 single tickets have been issued to the secretaries of societies for the introduction of labour, viz.—

	Family Tickets.	Single Tickets.
To the secretary of the Launceston Immigration Aid Society - - - - - -	60	40
Ditto St. Andrew's Society - - - - -	100	300

These societies were formed at Launceston by subscription. An immigration society has also been formed at Hobart Town, to which a large amount has been contributed. Bounty tickets have not been applied for by this society, the present object of which I understand to be to afford assistance by way of loan and agency in the United Kingdom, when required by the holders of bounty tickets desirous of introducing either servants or relatives, the society making certain charges on account of the aid thus given.

The agency in connexion with these societies is of a temporary character; the Rev. Mr. Drake, who proceeded to the United Kingdom for the Immigration Aid Society, is expected shortly to return to Launceston, with the immigrants selected, in the "Whirlwind," a vessel of 1,000 tons, and Mr. Joseph Bonney, who went to the United Kingdom in July last, as the agent of the Launceston St. Andrew's Society and also of the Hobart Town Society, and who holds blank bounty tickets under the Government, undertook the office for one year only.

An opinion is very generally expressed that a permanent agency of some kind in the United Kingdom, in addition to the private agency of individuals, is requisite, to secure to the colony the full advantage of the bounty regulations; and I have to report, that two offers of agency for the selection of emigrants have been received and submitted to the Government, one from Messrs. James Baines & Co., of Liverpool, a firm of established character and possessing great advantages, with whom, as I shall below submit, arrangements have been formed for granting passages on bounty tickets; and the other from the Colonization Loan Society, the same at the disposal of which the Government of New South Wales placed the sum of 10,000 *l.* to be employed in forwarding emigrants to that colony.

14. The expectation that passages would be granted on bounty tickets by shipowners, has also been realised. It was always perceived that the success of the system depended in great

great measure upon this, as removing the necessity for remitting passage-money and obviating difficulty in obtaining passages; an arrangement for this object has been satisfactorily effected.

Mr. A. Macnaughtan having perceived, before the introduction of the present system, that passages under some form would be required for emigrants to Van Diemen's Land, had communicated with Mr. Du Croz, of Launceston, whose views coincided with his own, on the subject of proposing to Messrs. Baines & Co., owners of the Black Ball line of packets, with whom Mr. Du Croz was in correspondence, to undertake to provide such passages, which is was thought likely they would do. Messrs. Baines & Co. having been written to by Mr. Du Croz, authorised their agent at Melbourne, Mr. Murphy, to make such arrangements as might be requisite, and he having proceeded to Hobart Town, it was concluded with the Government by Mr. Macnaughtan, in conjunction with him, that Messrs. Baines & Co. should provide passages for emigrants to Van Diemen's Land, with liberty to the emigrants to remain on board the ship for a period not exceeding ten running days from the day on which the ship comes to anchor in the harbour, if required by the Government. The bounty being raised from 20 *l.* to 22 *l.* per statute adult, with retrospective effect on tickets issued, and the Government agreeing to notify that passages might be obtained from them.

In the arrangements made with Messrs. Baines & Co. it was understood that the amount of the bounty would be liable to alteration at any time, in a fair proportion to the prevailing rates of passage-money to Melbourne, and the calculation of the relative proportion made at the time, was as follows:

Passages were then advertised for, I think, 16 *l.*; but these were of an inferior kind, and the ordinary rate charged by Messrs. Baines & Co. was stated at 20 *l.*, the whole of which amount was payable in advance in England, without reference to deaths on the voyage, But the bounty is payable in the colony, and one-half only can be claimed for immigrants who died during the passage. The relative proportion was therefore considered to stand thus:

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Ordinary passage-money per Statute Adult to Melbourne -	20	–	–
Exchange on draft, 5 per. cent. - - - - - -	1	–	–
Insurance on passage-money, 2 ½ per cent - - - -	–	10	–
Interest on, &c., eight months at 5 per cent. - - -	–	13	8
TOTAL, exclusive of loss by death on the voyage, under the Bounty System - - - - -	£. 22	3	8

It is also to be considered that passenger ships to Victoria obtain a full complement of cabin and intermediate passages, which adds considerably to the profit, and which they are not so likely to do in coming to Van Diemen's Land. Also, that ships of the Black Ball line usually obtain an immediate return freight, from Melbourne, of wool and gold, and a large number of passengers; and in comparing the rates at which ships are chartered by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners with the rates of Messrs. Baines & Co., it is to be taken into account, that, besides the passage-money, gratuities are paid in the case of the Commissioners' ships to the surgeon-superintendent, and others, amounting on an average of eight vessels arrived in Hobart Town during the last half-year, to 1 *l.* 0 *s.* 8 *d.* per statute adult; but under the bounty system, these and all other expenses must be defrayed by the shipowners out of the passage-money.

The raising of the bounty thus shown to be just, was absolutely necessary to the success of the system, and the following statement of the rates of passage-money paid by Government for emigrants introduced under the regulations of 22 October 1852, by private ships, and of the rate paid by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners for ships entirely taken up by them, and also of rates charged under the bounty system itself, will show that the arrangement made was advantageous to the colony, and probably more moderate than could otherwise have been effected. Mr. Macnaughtan is of opinion that as a fair relative proportion 2 *l.* more for a passage to Hobart Town than for one to Melbourne may generally be considered sufficient.

Arrived.	Ship.	Emigrants for.	Per Adult. £.	*s.*	*d.*	
May	Constance	W. D. Grubb	25	–	–	Regulations of 22 October 1852.
August	Balmoral	Ditto	30	–	–	
„	Juno	Ditto	30	–	–	
„	Prince of Wales	Ditto	25	–	–	
„	Baltimore	T. D. Chapman for G. Grant	29	6	4	
September	Banca	W. Cleveland	26	5	–	
October	Merlington	W. D. Grubb and T. Williams	27	–	–	

			£.	*s.*	*d*		
July	Northumberland		23	19	8	Average. 21 13 –½	Ships chartered by the Commissioners.
August	Kingston		23	19	8		
September	Maitland		24	9	3		
„	Caroline Middleton		24	1	9		
October	Columbus		22	17	7		
„	Mooltan		18	14	6		
December	Duchess of Northumberland		18	7	6		
„	William Hammond		17	4	4		

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Arrived.	Ship.	Per Adult.			
November	Wellington	25	–	–	Bounty System.
„	Derwentwater	25	–	–	
December	Antipodes	25	–	–	
„	Mary Goddard	27	6	–	
„	Southern Cross	22	–	–	
	With some arrangement for extra payment				

I must not omit to mention that the raising of the bounty was recommended to the Government by 11 of the principal merchants of Hobart Town.

It was, however, thought by some that if the bounty was found to fall short of the current rate of passage-money it would be unimportant, and that the difference ought to be borne by the introducer of labour; but I may be permitted to express the opinion that this would have rendered the system abortive, the system being founded on the principle that it is unjust and impolitic to burden with expenses the introducer of labour, from which the public at large are to be benefited in common with himself, and from which he may derive no particular advantage whatever; and that sufficient inducement should be held out to lead private individuals to make use of their influence and connexions to bring out labour. The most decided success has attended the adoption of this principle; and I may venture to submit that until the pressing wants of the colony be supplied, and the connexion established, it is in the highest degree important to maintain the bounty at the full amount of a fair rate of passage-money.

I may observe, that I was so fully convinced that the effecting an arrangement for passages was the turning point upon which the comparative success or failure of the system depended, that I was under great uneasiness regarding the possible disappointment of many persons who had not sent home under the regulations, relying upon the amount of the bounty being equal to the current rate of passage-money, and that the tickets would readily be acted on by the shipowners, and regarding the consequent discouragement to the public, and the possible breaking down of the system at the very outset, I could not, therefore, regard otherwise than with the greatest satisfaction the arrangement with Messrs. Baines & Co., as removing the hazard of failure from a plan which promises to be permanently beneficial. The apprehensions then entertained were not without reason; one bounty ticket has been returned, as a passage could not be obtained on it; and by advices received from Messrs. Baines & Co. it appears that they, acting on the communications received from this colony, but before they were aware that any definite arrangement had been made with this Government, had advertised for applications and granted passages on tickets which had been rejected by various shipowners, and would otherwise have been returned, to the great disappointment of the holders and injury to the system. Some emigrants have been forwarded by Messrs. Baines & Co., *viâ* Melbourne, and the first ship despatched direct by them to Van Diemen's Land may shortly be expected.

I fear it will be found that, with the best intentions, too great exertions have been made to send out as many emigrants as possible, in the shortest practicable space of time, and thus that too many will arrive together; should it prove so, experience will prevent a recurrence of this.

15. I beg now to submit some observations on measures connected with future immigration.

It is difficult, in the present unsettled state of the colonies, to form an opinion as to the amount of labour which will be required in Van Diemen's Land within any short given period, or how the emigrants already sent for under the bounty system may affect the labour market, yet when the extent of the Australian colonies is considered, the vast field they present for employment, the commencement of the navigation of the Murray, and the facilities for communication between the various colonies which have arisen and are extending; the diminishing attractions of the gold fields, the fall of wages in the colonies, the improved condition of the agricultural population in the United Kingdom, and the large amount of comparatively useless labour which resorts to gold countries; and with regard to Van Diemen's Land the work yet to be done in unimproved parts, and in internal improvements generally, together with the amount of emigrants who will join their friends in the neighbouring colonies, and the number of persons who will probably leave this island on becoming legally qualified to do so, it may, I submit, be safely presumed that if there should occur a superabundance or even an adequate supply of labour in any part of the colonies, it cannot long exist, and that although there may be occasional variations, the demand must continue greater than the supply for a very long period of time; greater, probably, than the funds ordinarily available will provide for; the probability is also to be taken into account, that wages will generally be higher in Victoria than can be given in Van Diemen's Land, the tendency of which would be to withdraw labour from this colony.

It may, and I conceive probably will, be necessary to send from time to time, for labour of certain descriptions, which may not be introduced by individuals, or not in sufficient quantity, and, in particular, I conceive it will be necessary to provide for a regular and adequate supply of single females, arrangements for which purpose might, with advantage, as it appears to me, be commenced almost immediately; for, although 916 single women have been introduced into the colony within the last five months of 1854, not generally of a description approved of by the colonists, there are at this time (January 27th) only about 56 undisposed of, and there is still a considerable demand for female servants, which will be

augmented

augmented by the increased number employed as wages and expenses fall; by the departure of women from the colony to join their friends, and by the numerous marriages which take place, while the proportion of single women specially sent for under the Bounty Regulations is much smaller than that of single men.

Under this view, it appears important to consider such measures as will advance immigration, and in particular such as may extend the utility of the Bounty Regulations, which being successful and approved may be supposed likely to be efficiently maintained, and may tend to prevent the introduction of abuses which might diminish the utility or cause the failure of that system, and also to make such permanent provision for the reception of emigrants, as may afford decent and comfortable accommodation upon a convenient plan, to a sufficient number both married and single; so that, in that particular, there may be no discouragement to the resort of a superior class to the colony.

16. With regard to the bounty system, the greatest facility for evading the intention of the regulations, is afforded by the manner in which the bounty ticket is endorsed over to the master or owner of a vessel. The ticket gives the name of the applicant to whom it is issued, and states that he has paid a deposit for an emigrant proposed to be introduced "by the said applicant," and that the bounty will be paid "either to the above-named applicant himself, or to the commander or owner of any vessel, to whom the ticket may be endorsed over by the said applicant in the form given below, and by whom the emigrant may be brought to Van Diemen's Land."

The form of endorsement is this:

"I hereby endorse over this bounty ticket to the commander or owner of any vessel in which the emigrants therein described may be brought from Europe to Van Diemen's Land."

The intention is plainly that the emigrants should be brought out on account of the person to whom the bounty ticket was issued, and that the bounty shall be paid to that person himself, or to the master or owner of the ship who may bring out the emigrant for him; but a master of a vessel may, supposing the sale or transfer of ticket, in many cases have no means of satisfying himself that the emigrant is really coming to the original applicant, or whether the endorsation may not even be a forgery; and if payment of the bounty were to be refused, when emigrants should be discovered not to be brought out for the original applicant, the effect would be to destroy confidence, and to lead shipowners to refuse to grant passages in very numerous cases, as for instance those of the relatives of persons in the working classes to whom bounty tickets are sent from this colony, as the means by which they may obtain a passage without the intervention of any agent, to whom reference might be made by the master if he were disposed to take such trouble.

It is, therefore, I conceive, unavoidable, in ordinary cases, to pay the bounty to the master for any emigrant he may bring out under a bounty ticket, if, in accordance with the regulations in other respects, and such being the case, the bounty tickets are saleable; and indeed a considerable profit might be made upon the sale of family tickets, for intending emigrants having large families might find it worth their while to give much more than the amount of the deposit for a ticket which would afford a free passage for the whole. A shipowner holding tickets might (supposing him disposed to do so) realise this profit by the sale of the tickets, and afterwards the profit upon the passage of the family; and it might have been with a view to some profit of this nature that the surgeon-superintendent of one of the recently-arrived emigrant ships wished to obtain tickets on which to send out emigrants.

I am led more particularly to notice this subject, in consequence of the sale of two bounty tickets having come to my knowledge, together with the fact of a gentleman in Hobart Town having taken out bounty tickets "for emigrants to be employed by him," when, in fact, the ticket was intended for another person, who went to England and brought out his family, he himself obtaining a passage under the ticket as well as them, which, except for the intervention of this gentleman, he could not have done; and I conceive that the chief safeguards against such transactions are to be found in peculiar care in the issuing of bounty tickets for servants upon such applications only as there is reason to believe can be relied on, and by adding in the printed form of application for bounty tickets an undertaking on the part of the applicant to make good to the Government any bounty paid on a ticket sold or transferred, or for emigrants not brought out for the purposes stated, and generally any loss which might thus be sustained in consequence of misrepresentation in the application, and also any loss in consequence of any misstatement of the age of emigrants introduced by the applicant, by which a higher rate of bounty may be obtained, together with the employment of trustworthy agents in the United Kingdom; and, in case of applications for the introduction of relatives and friends in the working class, by inserting in the bounty ticket, as far as possible, the names, ages, occupations, and address of all the emigrants proposed to be introduced, a form which was readily complied with, under the regulations of 4th May 1853, and which would render the tickets, generally, at least, unavailable for the passage of any other persons, and consequently unsaleable. It might, indeed, I think, be advantageous to require more full information than at present, in the form of application regarding all emigrants intended to be introduced, whether as servants or relatives. It might likewise be advantageous, I submit, to insert in the bounty ticket a provision that the bringing out under a bounty ticket other than bonâ fide steerage or intermediate passengers, or the receiving payment for, or the affording of extra accommodations to persons coming out under bounty tickets, should be a forfeiture of all claim to the bounty. Messrs. Baines & Co. have communicated to me a proposal made to them, and rejected, to take out a female and family as cabin passengers, they paying

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ing 30 guineas each as the difference under a bounty ticket, and their family servants under another ticket with them. It was believed that they would effect this arrangement with some other shipowners.

It might also, perhaps, be considered advisable no longer to issue bounty tickets in duplicate. It is very possible that both numbers of a ticket may be made use of to bring out emigrants, by presenting them to the masters of different vessels; and the Government might thus be placed under the necessity of either refusing the bounty to the master of a vessel who might have been no party to the transaction, or of losing the amount of the deposit, and the owners knowing this may probably refuse passages unless both numbers are delivered to them, which may cause much delay and disappointment.

There is also this inconvenience in issuing duplicates, that there is a difficulty in returning the amount of deposit to a person whose ticket may be cancelled, until he can produce both numbers, which in some cases he may never be able to do, and in others great delay may be occasioned.

Letters are so seldom lost, that I think it could not cause any great inconvenience to discontinue issuing duplicates, and this is more particularly the case, as Messrs. Baines & Co. not only undertake to make remittances of small sums from persons of the working classes to their friends in the United Kingdom, through Messrs. Kerr, Boyle, & Co., but have recently offered, through Mr. Macnaughtan, to forward the letters of persons in the working classes, as they have found that being commonly very imperfectly addressed, or intended for remote localities, they are often long in reaching their destination, or never do so. Mr. Macnaughtan has also communicated to me the opinion that they would probably act as the agents of private individuals for the selection of servants.

I may add, that since writing the above paragraph I have received a letter from Messrs. Baines & Co., recommending that duplicates should be discontinued.

I do not think that any large number of bounty tickets will be found to have been hitherto sold. Messrs. Baines & Co. have founded the offer of their agency upon the anxiety of intending emigrants to purchase bounty tickets, but which it appears they cannot obtain. The gentleman who purchased one of the two tickets above alluded to as being sold, informed me that he had much difficulty in procuring one, and the principle of the system by which a limited and usually a small number of tickets only is issued to known applicants, who will generally at least require them for their own use, will probably prevent any large number from being offered for sale; but it will, I think, nevertheless be judged advisable, as far as possible, to guard against the extension of a practice which has hitherto founded one of the chief defects of bounty systems, and which would place the Government under the necessity of either discouraging shipowners in granting passages by refusing the bounty, or of suffering loss by the payment of it, for purposes not contemplated by the regulations; and perhaps for unsuitable emigrants.

I beg also to submit, that all ships bringing bounty emigrants should be required to maintain them on board for a reasonable time after arrival, if necessary. I have already stated that by the agreement made through Mr. Macnaughtan with Messrs. Baines & Co., bounty emigrants are at liberty to remain on board ships of the "Black Ball" line for 10 running days after arrival, and it is not only just but very important that other vessels, deriving the advantage of that agreement by receiving the same amount of bounty, should fulfil the same conditions, which at present they are not bound to do, and that a provision to this effect should be inserted in the bounty tickets. I think, however, that seven working days would be sufficient for emigrants under engagement to service or coming to friends.

It is likewise, I submit, desirable to provide inexpensive means of recovering payment from emigrants by persons who introduce them, of the regulated deposit, in case the emigrant shall refuse or wilfully neglect to proceed to the service of the introducer, or shall not serve him as agreed, or shall in any way quit his service before the sum deposited shall have been repaid; the emigrant being thus rendered liable not only to fulfil agreement (as already provided for by the Master and Servants' Act), but, at the option of the employer, to repay the amount deposited, or any balance remaining due, either immediately or within such period as the adjudicating justices may direct, or in default of such payment to be subject to imprisonment with hard labour.

A case has come under my particular observation, in which two female servants were sent for by a gentleman at Launceston. They arrived at Hobart Town, and the introducer requested a friend at that place, to forward them to him. His friend saw the servants on board the ship, and informed them that their places would be taken in the coach as soon as possible. They expressed a wish to remain in Hobart Town, and it was particularly explained to them that they could not do so, without the consent of the gentleman to whose service they were engaged, and who expected them to proceed. Notwithstanding this they left the ship and took service, one in Hobart Town, and the other in the vicinity. The introducer at Launceston may proceed against them, under the Master and Servants' Act, but in this, expense would probably be incurred, and if they were under that Act compelled to proceed to his service, he must defray the expenses of their journey to Launceston, with the knowledge that they were averse to proceeding thither, and that he would probably lose his money, as well as the amount paid for the two bounty tickets; under these considerations the gentleman alluded to, has made up his mind, to lose both his servants and his deposit, rather than take proceedings.

It would further, I submit, be advantageous, when bounty tickets are again printed, to add on the reverse some plain directions for persons who are to make use of them, such as the necessity for endorsing over the tickets to masters of vessels (which is often overlooked);

that

that passages should be expressly taken for either Hobart Town or Launceston, according to the plans of the emigrants, as they very frequently come to the wrong port, and incur expense; that Baines & Co. grant passages for the amount of the bounty, without additional charge, which might be a protection against extortion, on the part of some shipowners; that the ship is bound to maintain emigrants so many days after arrival, if required, &c. &c. I have also to submit that it would be advantageous to add directions as to paying some small portion of the passage-money in advance, so as to bring the emigrants within the protection of the Passenger Act with regard to the supply of provisions during the voyage.

The Act requires (section LXIV.) that shipowners or other persons who "shall receive money" "in respect of a passage," shall give to each person from whom they receive it, a contract ticket, setting forth the various particulars of agreement regarding the voyage, including the victualling scale, which must be one of the two scales indicated in sections XXXII. and XXXIV., and must be printed in the body of the ticket. The section first mentioned provides a penalty against shipowners, &c. failing to comply with these directions; and as the bounty is payable in this colony, and emigrants do not make any prepayment, they may, as it appears to me, be refused contract tickets, or may be supplied with such, as may contain a provision scale, liberal in appearance, but not in accordance with those laid down by the Act, and on which, for that reason, legal proceedings cannot be sustained, the emigrants being thus, in either case, liable to be left without redress, should they be improperly supplied with provisions during the voyage, or furnished, either accidentally or fraudulently, with a contract ticket not in accordance with the Act, and therefore useless.

This point I submitted when the Bounty Regulations were under consideration, but it was not thought advisable at that time to enter into details of this nature. It appears to me to have now become a point of much importance, as affecting the emigrants under the bounty system, and on which it may perhaps be deemed proper to refer to the law officers of the Crown, in order to ascertain whether, in their opinion, a small prepayment on account of passage-money would fully meet the case, and whether any other measures would be advantageous with regard to it.

I may also submit that clause XVI. of the Port Act of 1854, which provides that persons are not to board vessels till properly secured at their anchorage, or go alongside, or board emigrant vessels till freed by the immigration agent, is rendered ineffective by the addition that nothing therein contained shall be construed to prevent the boarding of any such vessel by any person "having the permission of the master."

I also beg to notice, that it might be advantageous to define what should be considered a binding signature of (or entering into) the engagement by which emigrants agree to remain four years in this colony, or repay their passage-money, which is printed on the reverse of the bounty tickets, including all above 14 years of age. The engagement is signed in the United Kingdom, sometimes witnessed, and sometimes not; but the signature of a witness in the United Kingdom is, I apprehend, of no utility, and although the emigrants are, as far as possible, required to acknowledge their signatures before a witness after arrival, there are cases in which this would be very difficult to effect, and in the hurry of business it is liable to be overlooked; also the emigrant may refuse to do so.

17. With a view to future immigration, and the great consequence attached under the present circumstances of this colony to the encouragement of a good connexion with the working classes in Great Britain, I beg to submit to the notice of his Excellency the subject of accommodation for the reception of emigrants on arrival, the importance of providing which has been made apparent by the impossibility of providing suitably for the recently arrived indented immigrants.

With regard to Hobart Town, the building occupied as a depôt was rented, and arranged for single women only, and for that purpose it is very well calculated; but it has been necessary also to receive into it both families and single men, for whose accommodation, together with single females, the building and premises are not adapted.

For the single women proper accommodation has at all times been reserved; but for the families of the indented immigrants and their baggage the accommodation has been a part of the same building and a small iron store rented as a temporary depôt; the consequence of which has been that the married people and their children have been crowded together, day and night, in the same apartment together with their baggage.

The supply of water has been much too small for the greatly increased consumption; arrangements in other respects have been most objectionable, and much of the time of the officers has been occupied in listening to complaints, and contriving expedients. It has been impossible, from the want of means of complete separation, altogether to prevent improper communication with the single women, of which the married persons have been the medium, assisting in the introduction of messages, and also of intoxicating liquors; and there is no accommodation for the sick.

There was, however, no mode of avoiding this; the indenture system was adopted suddenly; the ships followed in quick succession; a steamer by which emigrants were despatched from Hobart Town to Launceston was compelled to put back, and the emigrants remained at Hobart Town; proper accommodation could not be obtained; that which was available did not admit of subdivision or of much improvement, particularly while full of people; and it was sometimes found that that which was suddenly required could not be immediately effected.

At Launceston, the building rented as a depôt is capable of containing only about 50 beds,

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beds, and although part of a store, was temporarily engaged for some of the emigrants forwarded from Hobart Town; the accommodation there also has been of a very insufficient description.

Impressed with the impropriety, as well as the great inconvenience of such want of accommodation and deficiencies, and the discouraging effect they must have upon the superior class of emigrants whom it is desired to induce to resort to the colony, it is incumbent on me to submit to the Government the urgent necessity of providing for their proper reception.

It is doubtless very possible that the necessity may not frequently arise for accommodating so large a number of emigrants as have of late been awaiting employment in the colony; but 212 blank family tickets and 400 blank single tickets have been issued for the introduction of emigrants from the United Kingdom and Germany, all or most of whom may be expected to arrive certainly within the next two months, and possibly in little more than one, and must be maintained until they obtain engagements; in doing which, as a great number of persons will arrive wiithin a short space of time, there may be delay; so that there is immediate and pressing oocasion to prepare accommodation.

	Fam.	Sing.
Hobart Town,	195	367
Launceston	17	33

It will also, I think, without adverting to possible emigration under the regulations of the Commissioners, be found necessary in future to introduce emigrants under blank bounty tickets, especially single females, and that accommodation, to a moderate extent, for families and single men as well as single females, will be found to be permanently required, while it continues to be a subject of paramount importance to the colony to encourage a superior immigration; and I would further beg to submit that proper accommodation cannot be obtained by occasionally renting buildings intended for other purposes, or by temporary expedients.

The military barracks, Richmond, has already been used as a temporary depôt for a few emigrants. It is in contemplation by the Government to employ buildings at Ross for the same purpose, and perhaps emigrants might occasionally be sent with benefit to other localities, for which purpose the proposed steam communication with the east coast might be made available. Many colonists are unwilling to incur the expense of a journey to town and back, with the outlay of living and the sacrifice of time, on the chance of being able to find emigrants who will suit them. On the east coast and in parts of the interior there is, I understand, a considerable want of female servants.

A temporary shelter, even without rations, till they can complete their arrangements, is often felt by emigrants to be a very important advantage.

18. I think I ought also to bring to the notice of his Excellency that a great number of emigrants are sent to this colony whose wish it was to proceed elsewhere; that many of those who come have relatives in the neighbouring colonies, and on arrival state their intention to join them so soon as they may be able, which I know that some have done, and do not doubt that others will do. The necessity of filling up ships on the point of sailing, or other reasons, may lead to this; but the practice causes a serious loss to the colony. Having a desire to obtain some grounds for forming an opinion as to how far this was the case, I questioned every emigrant by the "William Hammond" on the subject, and found that out of 32 families and 139 single women, 18, and about 42 respectively stated that they had relatives or connexions in Victoria or New South Wales. It does not, of course, follow that all those persons should join their friends, but many expressed the intention, and most of them the desire to do so.

19. I also beg to append, No. 9, a statement of some instances which have come to my knowledge, in which the regulations of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners have been evaded, concluding it to be proper to bring such instances to notice, both as regards single females and otherwise; and I also beg to add, that a great proportion of the single women state that their written testimonials of character obtained from employers had been sent in for inspection when they applied for passages, and had not been returned. Most of them state that they were led to believe these documents would be forwarded to this colony, and the loss is certainly of considerable importance to them on arriving in a strange country.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. D. Loch,*
Immigration Agent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 10.

EXTRACT from Letter, dated 25 November 1854.

"ON questioning the immigrant as to his abilities you find (on his own confession) generally a common Irish farm labourer. He cannot plough or mow: he can reap with a hook, but he cannot tell you the extent of his reaping, and as the Irish are inferior, very much so, to the English as farm labourers, you cannot do otherwise than arrive at the conclusion, that a large portion of these immigrants are inactive unskilful men, that will require close looking after, and much teaching, and their value would be represented by a very low rate of wages, apart from any value to be attached to the wife for her services.

"On

"On inquiring as to the wife, you will find generally that she can milk a cow, and it is doubtful whether she can do much besides this; — knowledge of household work and cooking, even in a plain style, seem beyond their ken, and though they profess to understand washing, yet, if I may judge by the state of the linen that met my eyes, they either are not proficient in this respect, or are too lazy to attend to it.

"Then comes the family, which they expect their employer to maintain and lodge for them, and even more than this, when by inquiry you ascertain that an arrival may be looked for in a few months, it is evident that they expect these matter of course affairs will be provided for also by those who employ them.

"A settler then is expected to pay an incompetent labourer 40*l.* per annum for work that he and his wife will never perform; maintain, and provide in all respects for his wife and family, and to feel very thankful for the privilege.

"I must confess that this mode of argument does not square with my ideas of right and propriety.

"Having brought up a family of my own, I feel no inclination whatever to bring up two, or more Irish families besides, however interesting they may be to their parents, and however pleasant the prospect for their mother to be paid by me for caring for them and their father, and to have an unlimited range of the pantry. I must be excused if I cannot acquiesce therein."

— No. 11. —

No. 11. Governor Sir H. E. F. Young to Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart. 9 May 1855.

(No. 64.)

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young* to the Right Hon. Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

Government House, Hobart Town,
9 May 1855.

Sir, (Received, 6 September 1855.)

In accordance with the instructions contained in despatch No. 205, dated 27th December 1848, I have the honour to enclose a return of the expense of emigration for the half-year ending 31st December 1854.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. F. Young.*

Enclosure in No. 11. Encl. in No. 1

Return showing the Amount expended for Immigration Purposes during the Six Months ended the 31 December 1854.

	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Salaries of Officers	777 10 1	
Repairs of Depôts	35 19 2	
Rent of Depôts	200 – –	
Gratuities of Officers of Immigrant Vessels from Great Britain	1,451 1 –	
Passage to Immigrants from Victoria	3,772 3 9	
Commission upon ditto	556 10 –	
Printing, Cartage, Travelling Expenses, and Advertising	19 – 3	
Stationery, Stores, Provisions and Fuel	554 2 11	
Charged to the Land Fund £.		7,366 7 2
Repayment of Deposits, and Payment of Passage Money of Immigrants	8,442 7 7	
Repayment under the Bounty Regulation	445 – –	
Charged to the General Revenue £.		8,887 7 7
Total £.		16,253 14 9

E. J. Manley,
Colonial Auditor.

Audit Office, 30 April 1855.

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— No. 12. —

No. 12. Governor Sir H. E. F. Young to Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart. 31 May 1855.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.; dated Government House, Hobart Town, 31 May 1855. (No. 68.)

(Received, 21 September 1855.)

* * * * *

"IMMIGRATION.—4,172 immigrants were introduced at the public expense: 5,353 paid their own passages: 11,280 persons left the island in 1854, viz.—7,281 men, 1,885 women, and 481 children, for the colony of Victoria; 943 adults, and 121 children for New South Wales; 100 adults, and 17 children for New Zealand, and 253 adults, and 67 children for Great Britain.

"9,656 of those who left the colony in 1854, have always been free, and 1,624 had been convicts.

"The first-named class of departures comprised 6,803 males, 2,147 females, and 706 children; the other class, 1,435 males, and 189 females.

"The excess of emigration over immigration in 1854, was 1,755 souls."

— No. 13. —

No. 13. Governor Sir H. E. F. Young to Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth, Bart. 7 Nov. 1955.

(No. 167.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young* to the Right Hon. Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart.

Government House, Hobart Town,
7 November 1855.
(Received, 5 February 1856.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 41, 27 March 1856, page 235.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Lord John Russell's despatch No 43,* of the 2d July 1855, enclosing a report, dated 23d June 1855, from the Colonial Land and Emigration office, desiring to be furnished with information as to whether the bounty ticket system of immigration adopted in Tasmania, and considered impolitic by the Land and Emigration Commissioners, is, or is not, best for the welfare of the emigrants, and for the interests of the colony.

* Page 232.

2. Fully concurring in the propriety of the injunction contained in the above despatch, not to continue the discussion in the controversial position which it had reached before my arrival in this island, it is only necessary that I should state that the issue of bounty tickets has been temporarily discontinued since the 28th March last; that public opinion, and the desire of the local Legislature, now about to become entitled to appropriate the consolidated revenues of the colony, are decidedly in favour of the bounty ticket system; and that there is, therefore, every ground for concluding that the system will be soon resumed with alterations in the details.

Enclosure 1.

Enclosure 2.

3. I enclose a report from the immigration agent, dated 24th October 1855, which contains much information descriptive of the character of the bounty ticket system. I also enclose a return, dated 1st November 1855, showing the probable amount of bounty payable on the whole of the tickets; it amounts to 115,366 *l.*, of which, to the 30th September 1855, 78,604 *l.* have been claimed and paid, and 36,762 *l.* is the probable amount yet to be claimed. It is the intention of the Legislature to raise a loan for immigration, and to provide for it from the public revenues of the colony, so that the annual charge may not prove too burthensome for the annual income of the colony.

4. The bounty ticket system is designed to call into operation all the ties of domestic relationship which usually cause attachment to the colony, and is believed to answer this end to a great extent; nevertheless, as with the emigrants despatched by the Commissioners in London, some leave the colony, eight are reported to have been prevented from leaving; the repayment of passage-

passage-money on leaving has occurred in one instance during the past month, the immigrant proceeding from Launceston to Victoria. The cases of this kind are not so frequent as under the system of the Land and Emigration Commissioners.

5. In conclusion, I beg to report my opinion that the public good, and the welfare of the emigrants on their arrival in the colony to which they have been invited by relatives or friends, are best consulted by non-interference with the bounty ticket system, except in so far as it may appear to the local authorities, under responsible Governments, to be necessary. The Passenger Act of Parliament is supposed, of course, to make due provision for the transit across the sea.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. F. Young.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 13.

Encl. 1, in No. 1

24 October 1855.

In accordance with the Colonial Secretary's memorandum of the 15th instant, I beg to submit the following observations relative to the letter of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, dated 23 June 1855.

Despatch, No. 43, 2 July 1855, p. 23

The point at issue, and on which the Secretary of State requires information, appears to be, whether experience has proved that Sir William Denison was right or not in regarding the bounty system as better calculated to advance the interests of this colony than that of the Commissioners.

I think that my report to 31st December 1854, and that of the immigration agent of New South Wales for 1854, show that the indenture system of the Commissioners is not of a practical character. My own report enters into the subject fully, and I may venture to say, conclusively.

That of the immigration agent of New South Wales says, "The result has shown that the system cannot be carried out with any satisfaction to either the employer or the employed;" and "there is little doubt that this Act must soon become a dead letter, and it behoves the Government and the colonists now to consider what will be the best measure to adopt in its stead."

It was the conviction that the indenture system could not work beneficially, formed from a consideration of the principles of it only before it came into operation, which led to the adoption of the bounty system in this colony, as one there was the fullest reason to believe would be found capable of obtaining for the colonists the description of labour they preferred.

The results of both systems have proved the justice of the anticipations formed in each instance. The indenture system brought into this colony a description of emigrants which public opinion most unequivocally pronounced to be unsuitable, and the system itself has both here and in New South Wales, proved a failure. The bounty system, on the contrary, has from first to last been universally approved of; it has introduced into the colony a large number of superior and valued emigrants, who would not otherwise have been obtained, and has practically proved to the colonists that they can, without difficulty, obtain the description of emigrants which they themselves consider best suited to the colony.

It was never supposed that the bounty system would prove free from defects; some were foreseen, others have been discovered in practice. It was not at first considered advisable to fetter the system with restrictions, but restrictions and improvements have been submitted and approved of which would greatly limit, if not entirely counteract, the principal defects, if it should be thought proper to adopt them when the issue of tickets is resumed. It may safely be said that the evasions of the present regulations, though irregularities, have not been injurious to the colony, and that there is every reason to anticipate great continued advantage from the maintenance of the principles which have already proved successful.

On some few particular points of the letter of the Commissioners it may be proper to offer observations.

1st, It is stated that Sir W. Denison assigns certain reasons for the difficulty experienced in finding employment for emigrants under the indenture system; viz., an undue proportion of Irish, and, consequently, of catholics, and large families, and forwards a report from the immigration agent at Hobart Town to show that such are the causes, but that on referring to the report, it appears that the immigration agent assigns many other causes which the Commissioners enumerate.

I have written various memoranda on this subject, and do not know what particular report is here referred to, but my half-yearly report to 31st December 1854 enters fully into the subject; assigns the causes enumerated by the Commissioners, but adds further (page 207.) "These circumstances have contributed to the difficulty experienced by the families; but the causes which have chiefly impeded the hiring both of the families and the single women, have been the unfavourable opinion entertained by the colonists of the emigrants sent out, and the nature of the system under which they have arrived, together with the rate of wages expected by the emigrants, who not being prepared to acknowledge any inferiority in themselves, not unfrequently demand the highest amount, or even more than is current, and this the colonists refuse to give." * * * "There is a great wish to obtain English and low-

The commission send out very fe single men.

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land Scotch emigrants. Had an equal number of properly qualified emigrants arrived from those countries, they would not in my opinion have experienced, even under the indenture system, the same difficulty in obtaining employment; and had they arrived free from the conditions of that system, I believe they would have been readily engaged."

The report then proceeds to enter fully into the description of the emigrants and the nature of the system; so that it is unnecessary here to submit further explanations on these points.

2. The Commissioners express the opinion that the population of England and Scotland are much less disposed to emigrate than that of Ireland, and do not believe that ships for Van Diemen's Land can be filled, if the bounty system is continued, without having recourse largely to Ireland; or, as seems to have been the case in the last ships, to Germany.

The impression expressed by the Commissioners was originally entertained by this Government, and it was the doubt whether it would be found possible to procure a sufficient number of emigrants from England and Scotland, which induced the Government, when strongly urged and influenced by the general alarm regarding an apprehended great scarcity of labour, occasioned by the cessation of transportation, and the resort of the working population of this colony to the gold fields, to issue blank bounty tickets for Germany. The result, however, has shown this to have been a misapprehension, for not only have many emigrants arrived from both England and Scotland, but Mr. Bonney, who went home to select those from Scotland, stated that he could have obtained more than the colony could have employed, and that his chief difficulty was whom to select from among the numerous applicants in that country. The Rev. Mr. Drake introduced a ship of emigrants from England. The Irish emigrants who have been introduced have been chiefly sent for under the bounty system, by their relatives or friends, previously introduced under the system of the Commissioners, or by other means; not from any necessity for resorting to that country, but because those persons were not excluded from the privilege afforded to the labouring class in general of sending for their relatives.

Had it been known at first, as that emigrants could be thus readily obtained from the United Kingdom, it is not probable that any tickets would have been issued for Germans.

3. The Commissioners introduce a Table, showing a comparison between the size of families under their emigration and that of the bounty system, which is very unfavourable to the latter. I hesitate as to whether I correctly understand this Table; for if I do so, I cannot imagine how such results could be arrived at, nor do I know how the information of the Commissioners was obtained. To my report of the 30th of June 1855, a comparative Table of this kind is appended, which gives different results, and which being founded on the records of my own office, I know to be correct. I there took the number of families and the actual individuals introduced under the indenture system, and set against them an equal number of family bounty tickets, fixing the number of individuals under each ticket, suppositiously, at the average given by the total number of each description, both of adults and children introduced under the bounty system, so that the correctness of the comparison could not be influenced by any selection of families; and an accurate result is, I think, arrived at.

The families of the German emigrants since introduced are large, as also some others; but no such selection from Germany is at all likely to happen again under the bounty system; and the system having been carefully watched and considerable experience gained, it is to be anticipated that improvements will be made in the details.

4. With regard to the case of Anne and Eliza Ward, their unfitness is proved, by the fact that the colony is paying 70*l.* per annum for their maintenance. That they are persons of good character has never been contested; but the Commissioners were most certainly deceived regarding them. Those who recommended them must have known their unfitness to gain their livelihood by their own exertions in a strange place, and must have been aware of the infirmity of the elder sister, though this might escape the notice of officers by whom they were casually examined and passed. It is a very gross and shameful case in those who practised on the Commissioners, and abandoned those helpless women to their fate in a strange land, where, however, they have experienced kindness and protection, which could not have been anticipated.

That the Commissioners are frequently deceived I know, from the instances which have come under my own observation; for it is at the end of a voyage, and not at the beginning, that such discoveries are made. This may be unavoidable; but I beg to observe that the Commissioners are misinformed in concluding that there is nothing in the bounty system to secure greater caution in such cases than they have used in the present; for it is plain that employers sending home for servants, will not introduce emigrants of that description, neither will persons of the working class send for relatives and friends incapable of supporting themselves.

(signed) *J. D. Loch,*
Immigration Agent.

Enclosure 2, in No. 13.

RETURN of Bounty Tickets Issued and Outstanding to 30 September 1855.

	ON DEPOSIT.		BLANK TICKETS.			
			From the United Kingdom.		From Germany.	
	Family Tickets.	Single Tickets.	Family Tickets.	Single Tickets.	Family Tickets.	Single Tickets.
Issued to 30 September 1855 - - -	891	1,328	124	200	100	200
Less certified for payment to 30 Sept. 1855:						
United Kingdom 540 family tickets, 822 single tickets - - - - - Germany 29 family tickets, 26 single tickets - - - - - -	569	848	66	152	92	198
Less cancelled to 30 September 1855 - -	27	51	- -	1	- -	1
Outstanding 30 September 1855 - - -	295	429	58	47	8	1

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Total bounty certified for payment from the commencement of the system to 30 September 1855 - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	-	-	-	78,604	5	-
Liability on the Tickets shown to be outstanding on the 30 September 1855:						
353 family tickets from the United Kingdom at the average payment of 73 *l.* on each ticket - - - - - - - - - - - - -	25,769	-	-			
476 single tickets from the United Kingdom at the average payment of 22 *l.* on each ticket - - - - - - - - - - - - -	10,472	-	-			
8 family tickets from Germany at the average payment of 64 *l.* 3 *s.* 8 ¼ *d.* on each ticket - - - - - - - - - - - - -	513	9	6			
1 single ticket from Germany at 18 *l.* - - - - - - - -	18	-	-			
Probable liability on 30 September 1855* - - - £.				36,772	9	6
Probable amount of Bounty payable on the whole of the Tickets issued - - - £.				115,376	14	6

* The amount of bounty certified for during October cannot yet be ascertained, as the Launceston returns have not been received, and some tickets are in suspense; but the amount certified for at Hobart Town during October is about 7,500 *l.*

There will be some deduction on account of over-due tickets which I hope to be enabled to submit in the return for October. There will also be some deduction for tickets not acted on, the amount of which is uncertain, but probably will not be large.

1 November 1855. *J. D. Loch*, Immigration Agent.

Enclosure 3, in No. 13.

RETURN of the Number and Description of Persons who have Arrived in, and Departed from Van Diemen's Land, during the Half-year ended 30 June 1855.

FROM and TO the UNDER-MENTIONED PLACES.	ARRIVALS.								DEPARTURES.													
	Port of Hobart Town.			Port of Launceston.			TOTAL		Port of Hobart Town.							Port of Launceston.						TOTAL	
	Free.		Children.	Free.		Children.	Males and Females.	Children.	Free.		Free by Servitude.		Conditionally Pardoned.		Children.	Free.		Free by Servitude.		Conditionally Pardoned.		Children.	Males and Females.	Children.
	M.	F.		M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
Sydney	181	71	6	9	3	2	264	8	275	114	25	6	11	1	38	54	26	23	2	19	–	12	556	50
Port Albert	51	22	14	–	–	–	73	14	79	35	10	1	–	–	9	1	1	–	–	–	–	3	127	12
Victoria	653	310	167	902	268	2	2,133	169	968	407	42	4	10	–	103	1,203	359	58	6	2	–	111	3,059	214
New Zealand	5	–	–	–	–	–	6	–	39	11	8	6	4	–	13	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	68	13
Guam	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
South Seas	–	1	2	–	–	–	1	2	3	1	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	3
England	516	392	339	599	539	577	2,046	916	111	74	6	–	–	–	28	16	10	3	1	–	–	11	221	39
Ceylon	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Mauritius	2	3	2	–	–	–	5	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	3	–	–	–	–	6	5	6
Twofold Bay	2	2	2	–	–	–	4	2	9	7	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	16	3
Adelaide	7	8	4	–	–	–	15	4	21	10	1	–	–	–	6	–	2	–	–	–	–	2	34	8
Calcutta	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Madras	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–
France	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Callao	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	3	–	–	–	–	–	3	3	–	–	–	–	2	10	2
Swan River	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Portland Bay	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	4	2	–	–	–	5	11	5
Port Fairy	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–
Scotland	–	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Hamburgh	229	–	–	–	–	–	229	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Valparaiso	–	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	2
Batavia	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
TOTAL	1,646	812	536	1,510	810	581	4,778	1,117	1,512	666	92	17	25	1	205	1,285	409	86	9	21	–	152	4,123	357
	2,994			2,901			5,895		2,518							1,962							4,480	

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

(signed) *F. Burgess*,
Chief Police Magistrate.

— No. 14. —

(No. 36.)

No. 14.
Governor Sir H. E. F. Young to Right Hon. H. Labouchere. 10 March 1856.

Copy of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere.*

Government House, Hobart Town, 10 March 1856.
(Received, 23 June 1856.)

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the Report of the Immigration Agent in this colony, for the half year ending 31st December 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. F. Young.*

Enclosure in No. 14.

Encl. in No. 14.

Immigration.

Half-Yearly Report of the Immigration Agent, 31 December 1855.

Immigration Office, Hobart Town,
23 January 1856.

Sir,

I have the honour to make the following Report on Immigration, for the half-year ending 31st December 1855, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-in Chief.

2. During the half-year 2,586 immigrants, including children, have arrived in the colony at the public expense; viz., 2,579 under the bounty system, and seven under the regulations of 22d October 1852, the particulars being comprised in the returns* I have the honour to attach hereto; viz.,

No. 1. A General Summary of Immigration, including the cost of introduction.
No. 2. A detailed Statement of Emigrants introduced, and Bounty certified for, distinguishing Hobart Town from Launceston, and stating the average payment per family.
No. 3. A Statement of the Native Countries and Religious Denominations of the Emigrants.
Nos. 4 and 5. Statements of the Trades or Callings of the Emigrants.
No. 6. A Statement of the condition of the Bounty System on the 31st December 1855, showing the number of Tickets issued, certified, cancelled, overdue, and outstanding.
No. 7. A Statement of the amount which will probably be required to meet the bounty tickets shown by Return 6 to be outstanding, supposing the whole to be presented.
No. 8. Statement of Wages obtained.

3. The immigration from the United Kingdom, during the past half-year, has been of a very satisfactory character. Some families or persons have been introduced who cannot be so favourably characterised, and some instances of the sale or improper use of bounty tickets have occurred, but these defects are not numerous, and are insignificant in comparison with the great advantages derived from the general operation of the system. Many apparently useful persons have been introduced as relatives, as well as by private employers, and on blank bounty tickets. In particular, I may mention the emigrants from Wales by the "Conway," and those from Scotland by the "John Bell," selected for the Hobart Town Gas Company, and the Launceston St. Andrew's Immigration Society, which last I had an opportunity of observing before they were forwarded to Launceston. With the exception of the few cases in which the regulations have been abused, as above mentioned, and a small number of persons of advanced age, I do not think any immigrants have been introduced at Hobart Town who would experience difficulty in finding employment in some useful occupation on the ground of incapacity or unsuitableness.

The Returns attached to my present and last half-yearly reports, show that from the commencement of the system up to the 31st December 1855, emigrants have been introduced in the following proportions:—

From England, individuals	2,029	Including children.
„ Scotland, ditto	1,764	
„ Ireland, ditto	721	
„ Germany, &c., ditto	858	

Considering these proportions, and also that many of the Irish emigrants sent out by the Commissioners have left the island, and that a disposition still exists among those remaining to

* These Returns, being voluminous, are not printed.

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to join relatives in the neighbouring colonies; also, that whatever emigrants may now be introduced by private employers and societies will be chiefly from Great Britain, and that the numerous English, Scotch, and Welch emigrants recently arrived are likely to send for relatives, which they have not yet had an opportunity of doing, it appears that the balance of immigration is greatly in favour of Great Britain, and against Ireland, and is likely to continue so.

From the opportunities I have had of observation, and the opinions I have heard expressed, I am led to believe the class of single women introduced for general engagement to have been on the whole inferior to those of the families and single men; and in obtaining a sufficient number of this description of emigrants of a suitable kind, both as to character and qualifications, I conceive that much difficulty will be experienced.

4. The emigrants who have arrived from Germany during the half-year are of a varied description. While under my observation they have in general conducted themselves with propriety, and I have heard very favourable accounts of the conduct and capabilities of some of them; but a considerable proportion of them have been selected without regard to physical capability or suitableness to the wants of the colony, and the number of young children has been too large, causing much difficulty in obtaining employment. Many persons have objected to employ these emigrants on account of the difference of language, and the additional superintendence which is consequently required. There is at present no demand for the few families who remain unemployed, and this immigration is generally considered very disadvantageous to the colony as compared with that from the United Kingdom.

While admitting that there is among these emigrants a considerable proportion of persons of good character and capabilities, I think the conclusion is unavoidable that, in the selection and transmission of these for general engagement, Mr. W. Kirchner has acted chiefly with a view to his own immediate advantage; and information communicated to me leads to the same conclusion regarding those engaged by him for private introducers.

The "Wilhelmsburg," by which part of these emigrants arrived, carried passengers (some for Sydney) upon two lower decks, which, as regards vessels sailing from British ports, is prohibited by the Passenger Act. Several cases of fever terminated fatally on board, or in hospital soon after arrival; and two cases were discovered very shortly after the emigrants had been removed to the depôt.

A report prevailed that the ship was filthy, and in a condition dangerous to the health of the city. On hearing this I went on board, accompanied by the agent of the ship, Mr. Macnaughtan, and found, as on various other occasions when I had visited her, that such was not the case; the "Wilhelmsburg" having been, while under my observation, one of the cleanest, most roomy, and airy emigrant ships which have come to this port. There was no apparent cause for the existence of disease on board, but it was found that the surgeon had neglected his duties, and was unfitted for the proper performance of them by a weakly constitution and want of energy; and the carrying of emigrants upon a second lower deck is highly objectionable.

The subject of German immigration formed a part of my report to the 30th June last.

No complaints regarding insufficiency of food were made by the emigrants by the "Wilhelmsburg" and "San Francisco," which arrived during the last half-year.

5. On the subject of the demand for labour, I have to submit that frequent inquiries are made for single men, as ploughmen, carters, and general farm labourers, but emigrants with families of young children, either large or small, experience great difficulty in obtaining service. This difficulty has gradually increased as the number of families introduced has augmented; and of late, employers have almost invariably stated that the want of accommodation, and the expense and inconvenience attending young families, place it quite out of their power to employ emigrants who have them, and thus such persons have latterly remained long disengaged at Hobart Town, though no other objection was advanced against them. The immigration agent at Launceston informs me that a similar difficulty exists there regarding families.

There is at present only a moderate demand for mechanics; and regarding the probable want of persons of that description I am unable to offer any positive opinion. The employment of some of these persons is still unfavourably affected by the importation of manufactured goods; the high price of labour discourages manufactures, building, and improvements; ship-building is suspended; and the condition of these colonies renders it, I think, unsafe to express an opinion as to the probable demand for persons in this class in particular, and even that for labour generally. Should provisions and expenses fall, and a reduction of wages follow, the demand may be greatly increased for mechanics, as well as for other kinds of labouring persons.

Numerous inquiries are made for useful single female servants, the necessity of providing for a regular and adequate supply of whom I submitted to his Excellency's notice in my two last half-yearly reports; and I apprehend that before such supply can be obtained the want of it will be very seriously experienced.

Considering the difficulty of obtaining a single female immigration of a suitable description, the good character and capabilities attributed to the women of Shetland and the neighbouring islands, and other favourable circumstances, I have taken many opportunities of representing the importance of endeavouring to obtain single women from thence, which was first submitted in my half-yearly report to 31st December 1852, and formed the subject of a special report dated 27th November 1855.

Had the object been carried out by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, when funds were placed at their disposal for the purpose in 1853, and the people were ready

to

to emigrate in consequence of communications addressed to them direct from hence, this colony would probably have had no further difficulty in obtaining such single women as might thereafter have been required; but the Commissioners, while declining to take measures for sending women from Shetland to Tasmania, induced a large number of them, as I am credibly informed, to proceed under their ordinary system of emigration to the Australian colonies; and thus the connexion which ought in the first instance to have been formed with this island, and the consequent advantages, have been directed to other colonies. There appears, however, from the information I have received, to be reason to believe that female emigrants may still be obtained from thence if measures can be commenced in time to take advantage of the present season for visiting the islands, and to anticipate further proceedings on the part of the Commissioners.

6. In former half-yearly reports, and in recent special reports, I have submitted the subject of preventing emigrants from leaving the colony without repayment of the regulated proportion of their passage-money, and that of the accommodation of emigrants on arrival; and have not at present any additional observations to offer on these points.

Lists of passengers departing are regularly received from the Custom-house, and examined, and vessels on the point of sailing are visited from this office,—this having been found the most effectual mode of prevention; and many persons attempting to leave the colony from Hobart Town without payment have thus been prevented from doing so. It has been chiefly the emigrants sent out by the Commissioners who have proceeded to the neighbouring colonies, or attempted to do so, the object being generally to join their friends. I must add, that I am not enabled to make any positive statement as to the number of emigrants who may have left the colony at earlier periods, though I believe it to have been considerable, as it was not then in the power of this office to carry out the strict arrangements which are necessary for prevention.

The immigration agent at Launceston informs me that the list of passengers departing are regularly examined in his office.

The following is a statement of the number of emigrants who have paid the amount due on leaving the colony during the half year, and of the sums paid:—

	PAYMENTS.		TOTAL.
	Hobart Town.	Launceston.	
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Under the Ordinary System of the Commissioners:			
Hobart Town—two single females - - Launceston—one ditto - - - -	12 – –	6 – –	18 – –
Under the Indenture System:			
Hobart Town—six male and nine female adults Launceston—five male and one female adults -	155 – –	58 – –	213 – –
Bounty System:			
Hobart Town—nil.			
Launceston—one single man; one family of three male and three female adults, and four boys - - - - - - - - -	- - -	179 11 7	179 11 7
Total Payments - - - £.			410 11 7

Total adults—Male 15, female 16 - - - - - - -	31
Boys - - - - - - - - - - - - -	4
Persons - - -	35

The number of emigrants who have been stopped on board ship in attempting to leave the colony from Hobart Town is very much larger than the number above stated as having made payment, a considerable portion of whom did so in consequence of having been stopped on board.

7. The collection of the amounts due on the promissory notes of emigrants has not been satisfactory, and on this subject I purpose reporting specially.

8. The average payment per family for emigrants introduced during the past half year is 83*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*, and that for the preceding half year is 72*l.* 19*s.* 5$\frac{3}{5}$*d.*: the increase having been caused by the large number of children, some of the families from the United Kingdom, as well as from Germany, having been very large.

With regard to the expense incurred in introducing families, I may submit that it is to be taken into account that grown-up sons and daughters tend to supply the unencumbered

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bered labour which is most in demand; and that the children from three to fourteen years of age are obtained for one-half the bounty given for adults, and children under three years of age for one-fourth. Of the 1,605 children introduced since the commencement of the bounty system to the 31st December 1855, 795 were between seven and fourteen years of age, for whom half bounty only has been paid, and many of whom will very soon, and all within a few years, become useful.

9. In addition to the modifications in the details of the bounty system which I have on former occasions submitted as likely to be beneficial, I beg now to suggest that the observance of the Emigration Commissioners' scale and quality of provisions, and also of medical comforts, should be required in all cases where bounty is to be paid; also to submit for consideration that the bounty be offered only for emigrants conveyed from the United Kingdom, and not, as at present, from Europe generally: so that all passenger ships may be brought under the Passenger Act, from the provisions of which those arriving here from ports not in the United Kingdom are now exempt.

Also, that moderate gratuities should be allowed to the commander, surgeon, first mate, the person who serves out the provisions, the matron, the cook, and the male and female hospital assistant, should their conduct in promoting good order and the comfort of the emigrants be satisfactory to the Governor.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John D. Loch*,
Immigration Agent.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.
Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart., to Governor Sir H. E. F. Young. 21 March 1855.
* Page 183.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart., to Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young*; dated Downing-street, 21 March 1855. (No. 27.)

I HAVE received your predecessor's despatch, No. 20,* of the 7th of October last, submitting for the Royal allowance, authenticated transcripts of four Acts passed by the Legislature of Van Diemen's Land, in the months of August and September last, of which the numbers, dates, and titles will be found in the annexed Schedules. Having laid these Acts before the Queen, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty has been pleased to confirm and allow the same, and you will accordingly communicate Her Majesty's decision to the inhabitants of the colony under your Government, by a proclamation, to be published in the usual and most authentic manner.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4.

"With respect to the Act, No. 2, I enclose for your information the copy of a report which has been received from the Emigration Commissioners, in reply to a reference which was made to them on the subject, and I would direct your attention to the suggestion of the Commissioners, that it would be expedient for the reasons which they have assigned, that this enactment should be modified and amended, as has been recently done in the case of an Act of a like nature passed by the Government of New South Wales."

8 March 1855.

Encl. in No. 1.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
8 March 1855.

Sir,

WE have the honour to submit for the Secretary of State's consideration, the following report on an Act recently passed by the Legislature of Van Diemen's Land, No. 2, intituled, "An Act to Regulate the Binding out of Assisted Emigrants, and for other Purposes connected therewith."

2. This Act was passed to enable the authorities to assign to employers, emigrants sent out by this Board under agreement to serve in the colony for two years, or to repay, within a limited period of their arrival, a portion of the funds expended for their passages.

3. It

3. It is taken from the New South Wales Act, from which it slightly differs on one or two points. By the latter, the maximum sum payable by the emigrant is limited to 13 *l.* or 15 *l.*, according as the emigrant is of the first or second class, the remainder of his passage-money and incidental expenses being defrayed out of the land fund. In Van Diemen's Land, however, the sum which the emigrant may bind himself to repay is unlimited.

4. Facilities which do not exist in New South Wales are given by this Act for preventing the escape from the colony of indentured immigrants, and masters of vessels harbouring persons attempting to escape, are liable to penalties. To these provisions of the new law we see no objection. But the Act has the same defects which we pointed out originally, when reporting on the New South Wales law; viz., that as regards unmarried females no provision is made for cancelling their indentures in the event of marriage, or for requiring the concurrence of parents to the assignment of those under 18 years of age.

5. In New South Wales, the authorities adopted our views, and by regulation modified the law; but it will be seen by the accompanying letter, which we have lately received, that it is intended further to modify this law, and wholly to exempt single women from its operations.

Col. Secretary, N. S. W., 20 Nov 1854.

6. We would submit that it might be suggested to the authorities in Van Diemen's Land to adapt their law to the more recent legislation of the neighbouring colony. The matter is, however, of little importance at the present moment, as it will be seen from our Report of 31st August last, that emigration to Van Diemen's Land is now carried on irrespectively of this Board, under a system drawn up by the Colonial authorities.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 1.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, New South Wales,
20 November 1854.

Sir,

In consequence of the receipt, by the Governor-general of a despatch from the Secretary of State, dated the 3d of February last, and of your letter of the 17th of the same month, in which you forwarded copies of the regulations issued by you for sending out emigrants upon condition of repaying the cost of their introduction, arrangements were made for giving effect to them in this colony, on the arrival of the immigrants, in pursuance of the Assisted Immigrants Act; and I transmit, for your information, a copy of the notice on the subject, which was published here for that purpose.

2. In this notice, you will observe, that provision was made for terminating the engagements of single female immigrants on their marriage, as well as for obtaining the concurrence of the parents of such females under the age of 18 years, in respect to the situations in which the agent might propose to place them; but it has since been found necessary to exempt unmarried female emigrants from the provisions of the Act, in consequence of the difficulty of placing them in situations subject to an engagement by the employer for the repayment of their passage-money; and a clause has been inserted for this purpose in a Bill for the amendment of the Act, in certain respects, now before the Legislative Council.

3. I beg to add, that copies of reports made by the agent for immigration on this subject are transmitted by the present opportunity in a despatch from the Governor-general to the Secretary of State.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. D. Riddell.*

S. Walcott, Esq., Secretary to the
Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners,
London.

— No. 2. —

(No. 43.)

No. 2.
Sir G. Grey to Governor Sir H. E. F. Young
25 April 1855.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart., to Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 25 April 1855.

With reference to Earl Grey's despatch* of the 29th July 1851, stating that a sum of 40 *l.* was to be allowed on certain conditions to the surgeons of emigrant ships, to defray the expense of their return passage to this country, I have now to acquaint you that, as the price of passages has risen considerably since

* *Vide* Papers presented by Command, 30 April 1852.

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since that date, it has been determined that the allowance in question shall be raised from 40 *l.* to 60 *l.*, subject to the same conditions as to good conduct and return as before, the same to be reduced whenever a fall in the price of passages from Australia shall take place.

This increase will take effect from the present date, in order to include the claims of officers now on their way home.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey.*

— No. 3. —

No. 3.
rd J. Russell
Governor
H. E. F. Young.
3 May 1855.

(No. 5.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *J. Russell* to Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young.*

Sir, Downing-street, 3 May 1855.

WITH reference to your predecessor's despatch, No. 10,* of the 26th September, containing the report which he was instructed to furnish respecting the salary of Mr. Loch, the immigration agent in Van Diemen's Land, I have to inform you that the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have stated that they see no objection to that gentleman's receiving the increased rate of salary of 400 *l.* per annum, as recommended by Sir W. Denison, subject, however, to reduction in case of any material diminution in the number of immigrants arriving in the colony.

* Page 180.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

— No. 4. —

No. 4.
rd J. Russell
Governor
H. E. F. Young.
2 July 1855.

(No. 43.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *J. Russell* to Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young.*

Sir, Downing-street, 2 July 1855.

I HAVE had before me Sir William Denison's despatches of the numbers and dates mentioned in the margin, upon the best mode of conducting immigration into Van Diemen's Land.

os. 93 and 95 of
th Dec. 1854.
pp. 195. 204.

Sir W. Denison's proposals involved a considerable interference from the colony with matters of detail in this country, and, as was natural in such an attempt, were exposed to objections and difficulties which could not be foreseen and provided against at so great a distance. So far as regards the strictures which, upon learning the objections to his plan, Sir William Denison passed upon the service conducted by the Emigration Commissioners, I transmit to you a report from them, which I consider to supply a very complete and satisfactory vindication. No advantage is likely to result from continuing the discussion of a subject of this kind in a controversial point of view. The great object to be looked to is the public good, and I have no doubt that I shall receive from you such calm and impartial accounts of the working of the different kinds of immigration as will promote a sound judgment upon the question, which of them is best for the welfare of the emigrants and for the interests of the colony.

23 June 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

Encl. in No. 4.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
Sir, 23 June 1855.

IN your letter of the 12th April last were enclosed two despatches from Sir W. Denison, on the subject of emigration to Van Diemen's Land. As the principal of these despatches related to the system of emigration recently established in that colony, the first emigrants of

of which had just arrived, we postponed our Report in the expectation of receiving further information on the subject. But as no such further information has reached us, we think it undesirable to incur any longer delay.

2. In the month of May 1854, Sir W. Denison submitted to the Secretary of State a scheme of bounty emigration to Van Diemen's Land, which he proposed to substitute for the system in force in the other Australian colonies. In our report of the 31st August last we pointed out, as it was our duty to do, the objections which our experience led us to entertain to this scheme; objections, we may observe, referring almost entirely to the working of the scheme in this country, and, therefore more within our knowledge than within that of the colonial authorities. Our Report was transmitted to the colony by Sir G. Grey, and Sir W. Denison's despatch,* of the 30th December, is designed to controvert our views.

* Page 195.

3. It will probably not be desired that we should continue the discussion, especially as the immediate arrival of the emigrants would serve to show how far the partial application of the scheme which has yet taken place, was open to the objections which we had pointed out. But as Sir W. Denison, in order to illustrate the advantages of his own scheme, has drawn a very unfavourable picture of the results of the emigration conducted by this Board, we feel bound in justice to ourselves, to make some observations on this part of his despatch.

4. Sir W. Denison states that the bounty system, as compared with the system pursued by this Board, will introduce a better class of persons at a cheaper rate, and he forwards a report from the immigration agent at Hobart Town to show that much "difficulty has been experienced in getting rid of the emigrants sent out by the Commissioners, partly in consequence of there being an undue proportion of Irish, and consequently of Catholics among them; partly owing to the large families with which many of them are burthened." On referring, however, to the immigration agent's report, we find many other causes assigned for the difficulty of disposing of these people. He describes this difficulty as arising: 1. From the season at which they arrived; 2. From bounty servants having been sent for, and from those who were expecting them being unwilling to engage others; 3. From the families being in many cases too large; 4. From their being Irish; 5. From the demand for labour having decreased; 6. From it not being the custom of the colony to engage servants for a term, and employers consequently objecting to pay the advances required by the New South Wales scheme; 7. From the emigrants demanding excessive wages.

5. Of the above causes it is clear that the 3d and 4th only could be attributed to the mode of selecting the emigrants in this country. In respect to the number of Irish, it is true that the number was greater than the ratio of the population of Ireland to that of England and Scotland. But it must be borne in mind that the population of England and Scotland are much less disposed to emigrate than the Irish, that during the last two years and at the present time, employment has with them been plentiful and wages ample, and that when they do emigrate they prefer South Australia and Victoria, where they have more connexions, and will obtain higher wages. If the Van Dieman's Land Bounty Emigration should continue, we do not believe that they will be able to fill their ships without having recourse largely to Ireland or (as seems to have been the case in the last ships) to Germany.

6. In respect to the size of the families sent out, the results on comparing our emigration with that under the bounty system appear to be as follows:

	Total Number of Families.	Six Children under 12.	Five Children under 10.	Four Children under 8.	Three Children under 7.	Two Children under 5.
Commissioners' ships -	340	0	1	0	6	1
Bounty ships - -	500	5	6	10	39	5

It is clear that in this respect the Government emigration was much less open to criticism than the Bounty emigration.

7. In his despatch* of the 30th December, No. 95, Sir W. Denison, in further illustration of the superiority of the bounty system over our emigration, transmits a report from the immigration agent on the case of two sisters sent out by us, Eliza and Anne Ward, one of whom, Eliza, is said to be in weak health, and of deranged intellect, and therefore likely to be a burthen on the colony. If this apprehension be realized, the circumstance is much to be regretted, but it can scarcely be taken as proving the defectiveness of our system of emigration, unless it can be shown that the state of this woman's health and intellect could have been ascertained before she sailed, by more careful inquiry; and that the want of carefulness is a necessary or natural incident to the system. It would likewise be necessary for Sir W. Denison's conclusion to show, that such a case could not have occurred under the bounty system. Now, the circumstances under which these sisters were sent out, were as follows.

* Page 204.

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follows. They were originally proposed to us by Mr. Ellis, our selecting officer in Dublin, but an objection was felt to the eldest, Eliza, on account of her age, which was stated to be 39. On the form she was described as a charwoman, and Mr. John Morgan, a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, 19, Ely-place, Dublin, signed the usual certificate, that she was not afflicted with any disease calculated to impair "physical or mental energy," and the applicant signed the usual declaration to the same effect by her mark. A special certificate of character accompanied the application of both sisters, and of Eliza it was stated by one lady, that her character as to "propriety, honesty, and faithfulness, is unexceptionable;" and by another, that Eliza Ward lived with her mother five years as charwoman, &c., and that she knows "her to be most strictly honest, sober, and obedient, and with directions would make a most valuable servant." The Rev. Benjamin Gibson also, in a letter dated the 18th May, brought the case under special notice, and strongly recommended it to favourable consideration, stating that the sisters were "very much attached, and cannot bear to be separated, as indeed I believe they are all the world to each other, and have not a relative belonging to them." And in consequence of the objection taken to the eldest, the Rev. George B. Whelan, A.M., of 23, Trinity College, Dublin, addressed the Board on the 12th June, urging a reconsideration of the case, on the grounds that the two sisters were left orphans at a very early age, that "for seventeen years they have supported themselves by patient industry," that "their characters are most excellent," that they "are well known and respected," and that if a "relaxation in the rules could fairly be made, it could hardly be made in favour of two more deserving girls than the Wards." Under these circumstances Eliza Ward's application was passed, and she was allowed to accompany her sister in the "Duchess of Northumberland," but she was required to pay the highest contribution, viz., 15*l.*, so that the whole charge on the colony for her passage was only 3 *l.* 7 *s.* 6 *d.* At the proper time she and her sister presented themselves to Captain Kerr, the emigration officer in Dublin, to be forwarded to Plymouth, and they were also examined by the officer at Plymouth, and the surgeon-superintendent of the ship, but no doubt of the sanity of Eliza appears to have occurred to anybody before the vessel sailed from this country.

8. We hope Lord John Russell will think us entitled to say, that greater care could not have been exercised in this case than we exercised; and that if the weakness of intellect said to be apparent in Eliza Ward on her arrival in Van Diemen's Land existed before she left Ireland, it must have been in so latent a form as not to be discoverable by any such examination as can be made by persons not habitually living with the patient. And we think we may assume, that there is nothing in the bounty system of emigration to secure greater caution in such cases than we used in the present, or to make it impossible or improbable that this case should have occurred under it.

We, have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 5. —

(No. 47.)

No. 5.
Lord J. Russell to Governor Sir H. E. F. Young.
19 July 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *J. Russell* to Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young.*

Sir, Downing-street, 19 July 1855.

WITH reference to the emigration which is conducted from this country to the colony under your government, under the superintendence of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, and to the proportionate amount of emigrants selected by that Board from Great Britain and Ireland respectively, I enclose herewith for your information the copy of a report which has been furnished by the Commissioners in answer to a reference which was made to them, by my direction, of a despatch from the Governor of New South Wales, in which objection was raised to the emigrants who had been sent to that colony from Ireland.

7 July 1855.
Vide page 31.

Irrespective of the points which have been in discussion between the Governor of New South Wales and the Emigration Commissioners, the report now transmitted contains valuable information which should be available for the benefit of all the Australian colonies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

— No. 6. —

(No. 20.)

No. 6.
Sir W. Molesworth to Governor Sir H. E. F. Young. 21 Sept. 1855.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *W. Molesworth*, Bart., to Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young.*

Sir, Downing-street, 21 September 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch, No. 37,* of the 30th of March last, stating that two female emigrants named Ward might be expected to occasion to the colony an annual expense of 30 *l.*, and suggesting that application should be made to their relatives for a yearly payment of that amount, I beg leave to refer you to the 7th paragraph of the report from the Emigration Commissioners, which was transmitted to you in my predecessor's despatch, No. 43,† of the 2d of July last. Adverting to the account therein given of these girls, it is evident that there is no one to whom the application which you suggest could be made with any prospect of success, and I regret therefore that I have been unable to act upon your suggestion.

* Page 205.

† Page 232.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Molesworth.*

— No. 7. —

(No. 41.)

No. 7.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir H. E. F. Young. 27 March 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor Sir *H. E. F. Young.*

Sir, Downing-street, 27 March 1856.

I REFERRED to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, for any observations which they might have to offer, a copy of your despatch, No. 167,‡ of the 7th of November last, furnishing the information which you were requested to supply on the subject of the working of the bounty system of immigration adopted in Tasmania, and I now transmit, for your information, a copy of the reply which has been received from that Board.

‡ Page 222.

15 March 1856.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 7.

Encl. in No. 7.

Sir, Emigration Office, 15 March 1856.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of 18th ultimo, enclosing a despatch from Sir H. Young, with a memorandum from the immigration agent of Tasmania, on the subject of the working of the bounty system of immigration into that colony.

2. The principles of this system have been the subject of considerable discussion, as will be seen on reference to the correspondence mentioned in the margin. It is obviously undesirable to re-open or continue that discussion, which Lord John Russell's despatch of 2d July last may be considered to have closed, more especially as the disposal of the land fund is now in the hands of the local Legislature; and Sir H. Young states, that public opinion and the desire of the local Legislature are decidedly in favour of the bounty system. The memorandum of the immigration agent now transmitted, gives but few data from which to form an opinion of its working; but we observe in the public press a notice of a report made by him for the half-year ending June last, which we have not received, but which would probably afford more detailed information than can be elsewhere obtained. In the meantime it appears from Sir H. Young's despatch, that the issue of bounty tickets had been suspended since the 28th March last.

From Emigration Commissioners to the Secretary of State, 31 August 1854, 23 June 1855. *Vide* also Despatches from Governor, No 66, 3 May 1854, No. 93, 30 Dec. 1854. *Vide* New Zealand Gazette, 8 March, page 148.

3. Appended to the immigration agent's memoradum are two returns: the first showing the number of persons who have immigrated into or emigrated from the colony during the six months ended 30th June last; the second showing the financial results of the bounty system up to 30th of September last. These returns are not prepared in a form to allow of our drawing any confident or accurate conclusions from them; but taking them in con-

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junction with a return attached to the immigration agent's report of 27th January 1855, we gather that there arrived, under the bounty system, in the last quarter of 1854, 77 ½ statute adults; and that up to 30th September 1855 there had arrived from Great Britain 2,504 statute adults, and from Hamburgh 229, making a total of 2,810 ½ statute adults, and that the whole amount certified for payment from the commencement of the system to 30th September, was 78,604 *l.* 5 *s.* Assuming that all the passengers from Great Britain and Hamburgh went out under the bounty system, this would give an average cost of 27 *l.* 19 *s.* 4 ¼ *d.* per adult, which would of course be increased if, as can scarcely be doubted, there were among the arrivals from Great Britain some persons, either cabin passengers or others, who paid their own passages. The average expense of 7,179 statute adults whom we sent to Victoria, and of 8,200 whom we sent to New South Wales, during the same period, was 19 *l.* 6 *s.* and 19 *l.* 4 *s.* 4 *d.* respectively, including all the expenses of selection, &c. in this country, and of gratuities in the colonies. It seems obvious that whatever other advantages the bounty system may offer, it does not, as Sir W. Denison anticipated, introduce emigrants at a less cost to the colony than the system administered by this Board.

Vide Despatch, 30 Dec. 1854, page 195.

4. In conclusion we will only add, with reference to some expressions in the immigration agent's memorandum; 1. That the indenture scheme was not, as he implies, drawn up by us, but by the Legislature of New South Wales; 2. That his report to which we referred in our letter of 23d June last, was not that of 27th January 1855, which had not then reached our hands, but that of 3d of November 1854; and 3. That our statement of the number of children in the bounty families was taken from the ship lists, delivered by the master to the emigration officer before sailing, under the 13th section of the Passengers Act, 1852, and was not founded on any estimate of our own. We have thought it necessary to explain these points to prevent misapprehension on the part of any one who may peruse the correspondence.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

APPENDIX.

TASMANIA.

ANNO DECIMO-NONO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ,

No. 18.

By his Excellency Sir *Henry Edward Fox Young*, Knight, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Island of Van Diemen's Land and its Dependencies, with the Advice and Consent of the Legislative Council.

AN ACT* to establish a Board of Immigration Commissioners; and to enable such Commissioners to raise 200,000 *l.* by debentures chargeable upon the General Revenue of Van Diemen's Land.—[22 December 1855.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the appointment of a Board of Commissioners for the purposes of Immigration; and to authorise such Commissioners to raise the sum of 200,000 *l.* by debentures chargeable upon the general revenue of the Colony for the purposes hereinafter mentioned: Be it therefore enacted, by his Excellency the Governor of Van Diemen's Land, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council, as follows:—

Appointment of five Commissioners for immigration purposes.

1. It shall be lawful for the Governor of the colony of Van Diemen's Land from time to time to appoint, by a Commission under his hand and the seal of the colony, five persons, of whom the Colonial Secretary and Colonial Treasurer for the time being shall be two, to be Commissioners of Immigration for the colony.

To be called Board of Immigration.

2. The said Commissioners shall form a Board to be called the Board of Immigration, of which the Colonial Secretary shall be the president; and such Board shall enjoy and exercise all the powers necessary to fulfil the functions vested in it by this Act.

Three to form quorum.

3. The President of the said Board and any two of the members thereof shall form a quorum for the performance of all the duties of the said Board, except the issuing of debentures hereinafter provided for.

Board to appoint officers.

4. It shall be lawful for the said Board of Immigration to appoint from time to time a secretary, and such clerks, officers, and agents of the said Board as shall be necessary.

Salaries of officers.

5. There shall be paid to such secretary, clerks, officers, and agents out of the monies to be raised by debentures, as hereinafter provided, such salaries and allowances as the said Board shall determine.

Board to make rules as to immigration, &c.

6. The said Board of Immigration shall from time to time make and publish in the "Hobart Town Gazette," and such newspapers published in Hobart Town and Launceston as they may consider necessary, such rules and regulations for the management of immigration, the issuing of bounty tickets, the payment of such tickets, and of all matters connected with immigration as shall seem to such Board to be likely to facilitate the introduction into the colony of useful emigrants.

Penalty for contravening rules.

7. Any person who shall wilfully act in contravention of any of such rules and regulations so to be made and published by the said Board of Immigration, to the contravention of which the said Board shall attach a penalty, shall be liable to such penalty as shall be limited by the said Board, not exceeding 50 *l.* sterling, to be recovered in a summary way before two or more justices.

Board may raise 200,000 *l.* by debentures.

8. It shall be lawful for the said Board of Immigration to issue from time to time debentures for any sums not exceeding in the whole 200,000 *l.*, at any prices and on any terms which may be determined upon by the said Board, and such debentures shall bear such rates of interest, not exceeding 6 *l.* per centum per annum, as shall be fixed by the said Board, and shall be paid off at par at the expiration of any period or periods not exceeding two years from the day such debentures shall bear date; and also to authorise the issue of scrip receipts in anticipation of the preparation of such debentures; and such scrip receipts shall be in such form as the said Board shall direct, and shall be exchanged at such times and under such regulations as the said Board shall prescribe in that respect for debentures of the like amount and value, which scrip receipts shall pass by delivery to bearer until after 30 days' notice be given by the said Commissioners in the "Hobart Town Gazette" that such debentures are ready to be delivered in exchange for such scrip or receipt; provided that all such debentures, and also all such scrip receipts, shall be signed by such Commissioners and countersigned by the Governor.

9. The

* Her Majesty's Assent to this Act conveyed by Mr. Labouchere's despatch, No. 76, 24 June 1856.

terest on such bentures.

9. The interest on all debentures issued under the authority of this Act shall be payable half-yearly, on such days as shall be appointed by the Immigration Commissioners; and all such interest, at whatever days payable, shall be charged upon and issued out of the general revenue of the colony, and the principal money secured by such debentures shall be a charge upon such general revenue, until repaid out of such monies as shall be provided by the Legislature of the colony in that behalf.

reparation of ebentures.

10. The debentures to be issued under the authority of this Act shall be prepared for such principal sums not less in any case than 100 *l.*, and shall, together with receipts or certificates specifying the interest from time to time accruing thereon, be made out at the office of the said Board of Immigration in such manner and form, and bearing such date, as shall be directed by the said Board of Immigration, but so that the same shall in all cases be signed by the said Board, and be countersigned by the Governor; and such debentures, and the interest accruing thereon respectively, shall be transferable by the delivery of such debentures, and of the receipts or certificates for such interest thereon; and it shall be lawful for the said Board to provide for the delivery to the persons and corporations entitled thereto of such debentures as may be due to them under the authority of this Act; or it shall be lawful for the said Board, from time to time, to sell such immigration debentures to be issued under the authority of this Act, or any of them, and the several sums of money raised by the issue or sale of any such debentures shall be paid to the credit of the said Board of Immigration at such bank as the said Board shall determine upon.

sue of debentures.

11. It shall be lawful for the said Board of Immigration from time to time, subject to the provisions herein contained, to prescribe and regulate, by warrant under the hands of the Commissioners, the manner in which debentures shall be issued, and how and by what officer such debenture shall be signed or otherwise authenticated, but so that the same shall in all cases be signed by the said Commissioners, and countersigned by the Governor, and to provide for the manner of payment of the interest accruing thereon, and for the issue, if the said Board shall think fit, of receipts or certificates for such interest annexed to such debentures or otherwise, and also to provide for the issue of new debentures in lieu of any such debentures worn or defaced which may be delivered up to be cancelled, and for the issue of new debentures in lieu of such debentures as may be lost, at such times, upon such securities, and under such conditions and precautions as the said Board may think fit, and generally to make such regulations for the safety and convenience of the holders of such debentures and the payment of interest upon the production or delivery of such receipts or certificates, or otherwise as may seem fit; and it shall be lawful for the said Board, by such regulations as aforesaid, to provide for the registration of any such debentures as may be delivered up by the holders thereof for that purpose, and for the delivery of certificates of such registration in lieu thereof, which shall be transferable by entries in a register which may be provided for that purpose, in such manner and subject to such conditions and restrictions as the said Board may see fit; and every such warrant shall from time to time be published in the "Hobart Town Gazette."

100,000 to be paid to the Colonial reasury.

12. And whereas a large sum has been expended from the revenue for the year 1855, in payment of bounty tickets for the purposes of immigration during the year 1855, and it is expedient to provide for the speedy repayment to the account of the general revenue of the amount so expended; be it therefore further enacted as follows:—The said Board of Immigration shall, out of the monies to be received under the debentures to be issued under the authority of this Act, immediately pay into the Colonial Treasury to the account of the general revenue of the colony the sum of 40,000 *l.*; and the said Board shall from time to time, on being thereto required by warrant under the hand of the Governor, pay into the Colonial Treasury out of the monies to be raised by debentures under the authority of this Act, such further sums, not exceeding in the whole 60,000 *l.*, as may from time to time be required to repay to the general revenue the remaining portion of the sum so expended for the purposes of immigration from the revenue of the year 1855.

urther application monies.

13. It shall be lawful for the said Board of Immigration from time to time, by warrant under the hands of the said Commissioners, to direct the issue and application of any monies paid into the bank, so to be determined upon by them, for the purposes of immigration, in accordance with the rules and regulations to be made and published by them as aforesaid.

avings banks depots may be lent on ebentures.

14. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any Savings' Banks Act, it shall be lawful for the managers of the savings' banks of Hobart Town and Launceston respectively to advance or lend to the said Board of Immigration, upon the credit of the debentures to be issued by the said Board in pursuance of this Act, any sum or sums of money not exceeding in the whole the half of the amount of deposits standing in the books of such savings' banks of Hobart Town and Launceston respectively.

ost debentures may e replaced.

15. In case proof shall be made on the oath or oaths of one or more witness or witnesses before the Chief Justice or any Judge of the Supreme Court, that any debenture issued under this Act and not paid off shall, by casualty or mischance, have been burnt or otherwise destroyed, and if by such oath or oaths the amount of such debenture shall be ascertained, and the said Chief Justice or Judge, or either of them, before whom such oath or oaths shall be made shall certify that he is satisfied with such proof, then and in every such case the said Board of Immigration is hereby authorised to cause another debenture or other debentures

debentures of equal amount to be issued in lieu of such debenture or debentures so burnt or destroyed; provided, that the person or persons so receiving such new debenture or debentures do give security to the Governor, to the satisfaction of the said Board of Immigration, to deliver up to the said Board of Immigration to be cancelled the debenture so certified to be burnt or destroyed if the same shall be thereafter found or produced, and to pay to the said Board of Immigration for the purposes of this Act all such monies as shall have been paid out of the Colonial Treasury as principal and interest on the new debenture which may have been issued under this provision.

Punishment for forging debentures.

16. If any person shall forge or alter, or shall offer, utter, dispose of, or put off, knowing the same to be forged or altered, any debenture, or any receipt or certificate for interest accruing thereon, issued under this Act, such person shall be guilty of felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be liable, at the discretion of the court, to be kept in penal servitude for life or for any term not less than two years.

Punishment for having instruments for making debentures in possession without authority.

17. Every person who shall make, or cause or procure to be made, or shall aid or assist in making, or shall knowingly have in his possession, not being legally authorised by the said Board of Immigration, and without lawful excuse (the proof whereof shall lie on the person accused), any instrument having therein any words, letters, figures, marks, lines, or devices peculiar to and appearing in the substance of any paper provided or to be provided or used for such debentures, or any machinery for working any threads into the substance of any paper or any such thread, and intended to imitate such words, letters, figures, marks, lines, threads, or devices, or any plate peculiarly employed for printing debentures, or any die peculiarly used for preparing any such plate or for sealing such debentures, or any plate or die intended to imitate such plates or dies respectively; and also every person, not authorised by the said Board of Immigration so to do, who shall make, or cause, or procure to be made, or aid or assist in making, any paper in the substance of which shall appear any words, letters, figures, marks, lines, threads, or other devices peculiar to and appearing in the substance of any paper provided or to be provided or used for such debentures, or any part of such words, letters, figures, marks, lines, threads, or other devices, and intended to imitate the same; and also every person, not authorised by the said Board of Immigration so to do, who shall knowingly have in his possession without lawful excuse (the proof whereof shall lie on the person accused), any paper whatever in the substance whereof shall appear any such words, letters, figures, marks, lines, threads, or devices as aforesaid, or any part of such words, letters, figures, marks, lines, threads, or devices, and intended to imitate the same; and also every person, not being authorised as aforesaid, who shall cause or assist in causing any such words, letters, figures, marks, lines, threads, or devices as aforesaid, or any part of such words, letters, figures, marks, lines, threads, or other devices, and intended to imitate the same, to appear in the substance of any paper whatever, or who shall take or assist in taking any impression of any such plate or die as aforesaid, shall be guilty of felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be liable, at the discretion of the court, to be kept in penal servitude for 10 years, or for any term not less than two years.

Punishment for having paper, &c. manufactured for debentures in possession without authority.

18. Every person not lawfully authorised, and without lawful excuse (the proof whereof shall lie on the person accused), who shall purchase or receive, or take or have in his custody, any paper manufactured and provided by or under the directions of the said Board of Immigration, for the purpose of being used as debentures, before such paper shall have been duly stamped, signed, and issued for public use, or any plate or die as aforesaid, shall for every such offence be guilty of a misdemeanor, and being convicted thereof shall, at the discretion of the court before whom he shall be tried, be imprisoned for any period not more than three years nor less than six calendar months.

19. All rules and regulations made and published under the authority of this Act shall, within one month after the same shall have been so made and published, be laid upon the table of each House of the Parliament of Van Diemen's Land if Parliament shall be then sitting; and if not, within one month after the commencement of the next sitting of the Parliament; provided that the said rules and regulations shall come into full force and effect at such times as the said Board shall appoint, either before or after the time within which the said rules are hereby directed to be laid upon the table of each House of Parliament.

Michael Fenton,
Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 21st day of December 1855.

Fr. Hartwell Henslowe,
Clerk of the Council.

In the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, I assent to this Act.

H. E. F. Young,
Governor.

Government House, Hobart Town,
22 December 1855.

ANNO DECIMO-NONO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. 28.

By His Excellency Sir *Henry Edward Fox Young*, Knight, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Island of Tasmania and its Dependencies, with the Advice and Consent of the Legislative Council.

AN ACT* to amend the Law relating to Masters, Servants, and Apprentices.

[7 February 1856.]

reamble.

WHEREAS the Law relating to Masters, Servants, and Apprentices requires amendment; Be it therefore enacted, by his Excellency the Governor of the Island of Tasmania and its Dependencies, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:

onstruction.

1. In the construction and for the purposes of this Act,—

Labourer."

The term "labourer" shall extend to artificers, mechanics, tradesmen, manufacturers, journeymen, handicraftsmen, farm labourers, shearers, fencers, sawyers, splitters, and all other workmen and labourers of every class or description whatsoever:

Servant."

The term "servant" shall extend to and include all persons so as aforesaid comprehended under the term "labourer," and also all grooms, coachmen, shepherds, herdsmen, working overseers, storemen, porters, gardeners, and also all menial, domestic, farming, and other servants of every class or description whatsoever:

Apprentice."

The term "apprentice" shall extend to and include every person, of any age, bound by deed to serve as an apprentice or servant in any trade, business, occupation, or capacity whatsoever, and upon whose binding out no larger sum that 50 *l.* shall have been paid:

Master."
Employer."

The term "master" shall extend to and include "mistress;" and the term "employer" shall mean any person, male or female, by or on behalf of whom any contract or agreement shall have been made with any servant for the performance of any work:

elation of Master
d Servant.

The relation of master and servant shall be deemed to commence immediately upon the agreement or engagement for service being made or entered into, and notwithstanding the servant shall not have entered upon or commenced the service, and shall be deemed to continue until the lawful termination of the service.

ort Title.

2. In referring to this Act, in other Acts of Council and in legal proceedings and otherwise, it shall be sufficient to use the expression "The Master and Servant Act, 1856."

Vict., No. 8,
pealed.

3. The Master and Servant Act,† 18 Vict., No. 8, is hereby repealed, except as to offences upon which convictions have been made before the passing of this Act.

ct to extend to Servnts and Labourers
gaged before the
ssing, and above
e age of 16.
ge not necessary to
proved.

4. The provisions of this Act shall extend to all servants, apprentices, and labourers, whether engaged, bound, or employed before or after the passing thereof, and shall extend to all servants and labourers above the age of 16 years; provided that it shall not be necessary in any proceeding under this Act to allege or prove that any servant or labourer is above the age of 16 years; but in case the servant or labourer shall allege that he is not above that age, the burthen of proof of such allegation shall lie on him.

usband or parent
ay put an end to
rvice entered into
thout consent.

5. It shall be lawful for the husband of any married woman, and for the parent or guardian of any infant under the age of 18 years, having entered into any engagement, or become bound as a servant or apprentice, without the consent of such husband, parent, or guardian, as the case may be, to terminate the service by giving a month's warning for that purpose to the master; and on the expiration of such warning such service shall be deemed to be terminated, and any deed, contract, or agreement relating thereto shall thenceforth be void.

month's warning
cessary to determine
indefinite service.

6. Where the term or period of service of any servant shall be or become indefinite as to duration, such service shall not be terminable by either party by less than a month's previous warning unless otherwise expressly agreed.

Vages to be payable
uarterly.

7. The wages of servants and apprentices shall, in all cases whatsoever, unless otherwise expressly agreed, be deemed to be due and payable quarterly.

unishment of
ffences committed
y servants.

8. If any servant engaged by or on behalf of any master shall not enter upon his master's service according to such engagement, or shall absent himself from his master's service before the lawful termination thereof, or shall refuse to perform the same, or shall not perform the same in a diligent and careful manner, or shall disobey any lawful command of his master, or of any person by his master in that behalf authorised, or shall be guilty of any other misconduct in the execution of his service, or relating thereto, or during the continuance thereof, excepting only in the case of a male servant, apprentice, or labourer, those acts of misconduct provided for by sections 11 and 12 of this Act, every servant in any case so offending, being convicted thereof before any two or more justices of the peace, upon

* Her Majesty's Assent to this Act conveyed by Mr. Labouchere's despatch, No. 76, 24 June 1856.
† *Vide* page 188.

upon complaint made by or on behalf of such master, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 10 *l.*, or to forfeit the whole or any portion of the wages due or accruing, or, at the discretion of such justices, to both such punishments.

Punishment of offences by apprentices

9. If any apprentice shall absent himself from his master's service without his leave, or be guilty of any other misconduct in, or relating to, or during the term of his service, every apprentice in any such case so offending, being convicted thereof before two justices of the peace upon complaint made by or on behalf of such master, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 10 *l.*, or to forfeit the whole or any portion of any wages that may be due or accruing not exceeding 10 *l.*, or, at the discretion of such justices, to both such punishments.

Punishment of labourers for breach of contract, &c.

10. If any labourer having contracted with any employer for the performance of any work shall not commence such work according to his contract, or shall absent himself from such work before the completion thereof according to his contract, or shall return such work unfinished, or shall not perform the same in a diligent and careful manner and according to his contract, or shall be guilty of any other misconduct in the execution of such work, or relating thereto, or during the continuance of such contract, every labourer in any such case so offending, being convicted thereof before two justices of the peace upon complaint made by or on behalf of such employer, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 10 *l.*, or to forfeit the whole or any portion of the money due or accruing under such contract, or, at the discretion of such justices, to both such punishments.

Male servants guilty of violent conduct, &c. may be given in charge to a constable.

11. If any male servant, apprentice, or labourer shall make use of any profane or obscene language to or in the presence or hearing of his master or employer, or any of the family of such master or employer, or shall assault or conduct himself in a violent manner towards his master or employer or any of the family of such master or employer, or shall be drunk or disorderly on the premises occupied by his master or employer, every such servant, apprentice, or labourer in any case so offending, being convicted before any two or more justices of the peace, upon complaint made by or on behalf of such master or employer, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.*, or at the discretion of such justices to imprisonment with hard labour for any period not exceeding three months; and it shall be lawful for such master or employer, or any of his family, to give the servant, apprentice, or labourer so offending into the custody of any constable, who is hereby required to take such servant, apprentice, or labourer into his custody without a warrant, and to convey him as soon as may be before a justice of the peace, and in the mean time to detain him in custody, and the justice before whom such servant, apprentice, or labourer shall be brought is hereby authorised either to discharge him, or to remand him for hearing before two justices of the peace; and such servant, apprentice, or labourer shall be dealt with by such justices in the same manner as if he had been brought before them by virtue of a summons or warrant issued for that purpose under the authority of this Act.

Labourer employed about a house punishable for misconduct on complaint of occupier.

12. If any male servant, apprentice, or labourer, employed by his master or employer to perform any work about any house or premises in the occupation of any other person, shall make use of any profane or obscene language to or in the presence or hearing of the occupier of such house or premises or any of his family, or shall be drunk or guilty of any violent or disorderly conduct in such house or on such premises, or shall be guilty of any violent conduct towards such occupier or any of his family, every servant or labourer in any such case so offending, being convicted thereof before two justices of the peace upon complaint made by or on behalf of such occupier, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.*, or at the discretion of such justices, to imprisonment with hard labour for any period not exceeding three months.

Period of absence without leave, or imprisonment, not to be counted in that of service, but servant to return and complete service.

13. Neither the period of absence without leave, nor that of imprisonment for or in consequence of the non-payment of any penalty imposed by this Act for any offence under this Act, shall be accounted part of the period or term of service of any servant or apprentice, but such servant or apprentice shall, on being found at any time within twelve months after such absence, or immediately on the expiration of any such imprisonment, as the case may be, return to and continue in his master's service for such period as is equal to the period of service which was unexpired when he absented himself or was imprisoned, whichever may have first happened; and the period of service after such absence or imprisonment shall be deemed to be a part and continuation of the original service; and in case, and as often as such servant or apprentice shall fail or refuse so to return to and continue in such service for such period as aforesaid, he shall be liable to be punished as for misconduct during his service.

Upon complaint being established, magistrate authorised, at the request of complainant, to discharge servant, &c.

14. It shall be lawful for the justices before whom and to whose satisfaction any complaint under this Act shall be established, whether against any master or employer, or against any servant, apprentice, or labourer, and upon the request of the complainant or defendant, besides any order, award, or punishment by this Act authorised in any such case, to order the discharge of such servant, apprentice, or labourer from his service, employment, or contract, and to order any deed or instrument relating to such service or employment to be cancelled; and the same shall immediately on the making of such order be deemed to be cancelled, and shall thenceforth be void without actual cancellation.

Mode of procedure against servants, &c.

15. Upon complaint made to any justice of the peace by or on behalf of any such master, employer, or occupier against any such servant, apprentice, or labourer as aforesaid for any offence under this Act, it shall be lawful for such justice to issue his summons, and in the

case of a male servant, apprentice, or labourer, where it shall be proved to such justice to be necessary, his warrant, to bring the servant, apprentice, or labourer so complained against before any two justices of the peace, and such justices are hereby empowered to hear and determine such complaint, and upon conviction to sentence the offender to such punishment as by this Act is in such case authorised.

name of servant or bourer unknown, he ay be apprehended thout naming him warrant.

16. In case the name of any servant or labourer alleged to have committed any offence punishable under this Act shall not be known to the complainant, it shall be lawful for such complainant in his complaint to give such description as he is able of such servant or labourer, whereupon it shall be lawful for the justice to issue his summons, and in the case of a male servant or labourer, where it shall be proved to such justice to be necessary, his warrant against such servant or labourer by such description, and all such proceedings may lawfully be had upon such summons or warrant as if the name of the servant or labourer had been contained therein.

wer to magistrates remand servants prehended.

17. It shall be lawful for the justice before whom any male servant, apprentice, or labourer shall be brought by virtue of any warrant issued under the authority of this Act, to commit such servant, apprentice, or labourer to prison for any period not exceeding seven days, there to be detained until the complaint can be heard, in order that reasonable notice may be given to the complainant to appear and substantiate such complaint, unless such servant, apprentice, or labourer shall enter into recognisance before such justice, with such sufficient surety and in such reasonable penalty as such justice shall approve, to appear before any two or more justices at such time and place as such justice shall appoint.

isposal of penalties way of com- nsation.

18. It shall be lawful for the convicting justices at the hearing of any case under this Act to award the whole or any part of any penalty or sum forfeited imposed upon any servant, apprentice, or labourer to the master of such servant, apprentice, or labourer by way of compensation for any loss or injury which shall be satisfactorily proved to such justices at such hearing to have been sustained by such master in consequence of the offence or act in respect of which such penalty shall be imposed.

ode of procedure gainst masters upon mplaint of servants r non-payment of ages.

19. Upon complaint made to any justice of the peace by any servant, apprentice, or labourer, against any master or employer concerning the non-payment of wages due, or of money owing for work done, where the wages or money demanded do not exceed 30 *l.*, it shall be lawful for such justice to summon such master or employer to appear before any two justices of the peace, and any two such justices are hereby authorised to hear and determine such complaint, and, in case the same shall be established to their satisfaction, to order the payment within such reasonable period as they shall think proper, by the defendant to the complainant of such wages or money as shall appear to be due, and also of such sum of money not exceeding 5 *l.* as compensation for the non-payment of such wages or money as he shall think reasonable.

ode of procedure on mplaints by servants, c. against masters r ill-treatment.

20. Upon complaint made to any justice of the peace by any servant, apprentice, or labourer against any master or employer of having used any abusive, profane, or obscene language to or in the presence or hearing of complainant, or concerning any misusage, refusal of sufficient and wholesome food or other necessaries, or neglect to provide the same, or any ill-treatment whatsoever, it shall be lawful for such justice to summon such master or employer to appear before any two justices of the peace, and any two such justices are hereby authorised to hear and determine such complaint, and in case the same shall be established to their satisfaction, to order the payment within such period as they shall think proper, by the defendant to the complainant of such sum of money, not exceeding 30 *l.*, as in the discretion of such justices shall appear a reasonable compensation to the complainant for the injury.

unishment in default f payment of penalty.

21. In default of payment of any penalty or sum of money under this act, other than wages awarded under section 19, the person adjudged to pay such penalty or sum of money shall be liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for one month, unless such penalty or sum of money be sooner paid, and with or without solitary confinement, for any period of the same time, not exceeding seven days at any one time.

imitation of pro- eedings.

22. All proceedings under this Act shall be commenced within 21 days after the act complained of, except only proceedings for the recovery of wages.

Magistrates Summary rocedure Act to pply.

23. Subject to the provisions of this Act, the provisions of the Magistrates Summary Procedure Act shall apply to all proceedings under this Act; provided, that no female servant or apprentice, of whatever age, nor any male servant or apprentice under the age of 16 years, shall in any case be imprisoned under the provisions of this Act, but the proof that any defendant does not exceed the age of 16 years shall lie upon him.

osts to be paid by sing party.

24. The costs attending every conviction or adjudication under this Act, not exceeding in any case the sum of 3 *l.*, shall be assessed by the justices convicting or adjudicating, and shall be paid by the party against whom the conviction or adjudication is made; and such costs, where payable by any master or employer, shall on non-payment be levied by distress and sale of his goods, and where payable by any servant, labourer, or apprentice, may be deducted out of any wages or money then or thereafter due or accruing.

ertiorari taken away.

25. No conviction or adjudication under this Act shall be held bad for want of form, or removed by writ of certiorari or otherwise into the Supreme Court; and no warrant of commitment

mitment or distress shall be held void by reason of any defect therein, provided that there be a conviction or adjudication valid in substance to sustain the same.

Agreements for service made in the United Kingdom, or elsewhere, valid without a stamp.

26. Every deed or other agreement in writing heretofore or hereafter made and entered into in the United Kingdom or elsewhere out of the colony, by which any servant above the age of 14 years has been or shall be engaged by or on behalf of any master for the service of such master in the colony, shall in all courts in the colony be valid and effectual without a stamp, and shall be of the same force and effect, and shall subject the parties thereto to the same consequences as if the same had been made and entered into within the colony, and all the provisions of this Act shall extend to such parties immediately upon arrival in the colony.

Facilitates the proof of such deeds and agreements.

27. In order to facilitate the proof of any such deed or agreement in writing so made or entered into in the United Kingdom or elsewhere out of the colony, the production thereof, with evidence that the person alleged to have entered into the same as servant arrived in the colony subsequently to the date thereof, and that such person bore or was called or known by the name mentioned therein, or had in any manner admitted having made or entered into, or being under or bound by any deed, agreement, or engagement for service with the master named therein, shall, in all courts in the colony, without proof of the execution of such deed or agreement, be sufficient *primâ facie* evidence of such deed or agreement, and that the same was made and entered into by the parties alleged to have done so, any law or usage to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Term of service and wages of servant engaged abroad to commence on arrival.

28. The term or period of service, and the wages, mentioned in any such deed or agreement made out of the colony, shall, unless otherwise expressed therein, be deemed to commence upon the arrival of the servant in the colony.

Master having contributed towards passage money of servant entitled to deduct the same from wages.

29. Any master having, whether under Government Regulations or otherwise, contributed any sum towards the passage-money or outfit of any servant engaged by him or on his behalf in the colony, or in the United Kingdom or elsewhere out of the colony, is hereby authorised, unless otherwise agreed, to deduct such sum from the wages of such servant as the same accrue due, by instalments not exceeding half the amount of wages accruing due at any one time; provided, that it shall not be lawful for such servant to quit such master's service, but such service shall be deemed to continue notwithstanding the expiration of the term originally agreed upon, until such sum shall have been fully liquidated.

Servant not to quit service till contribution paid.

Where any advance on account of wages servant not to quit service until advance liquidated.

30. Where any sum of money on account of wages has been paid in advance by any master to any servant, or for his use and at his request or with his consent, such servant shall not quit his master's service, but the service shall be deemed to continue notwithstanding the expiration of the term originally agreed upon, or of a warning sufficient otherwise to determine the same, until the sum so paid in advance has been fully liquidated.

Servants to obtain discharges on the termination of service.

31. Upon the discharge of any servant, or upon the termination of his service, he shall receive from his master, and the master is hereby required to give to him a certificate of such servant's service and discharge, which certificate shall be signed by the master or his agent; and if the master or agent shall refuse to give such certificate to such servant, he shall forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.*; provided that such discharge may be given by any justice of the peace where the master or agent refuses to give it without reasonable cause; and that no such certificate shall be necessary in the case of any servant employed for any period less than 14 days.

And to produce and deliver such discharg to their employers when entering into new engagements.

32. After the 31st day of March 1856, every servant entering into new service shall produce and deliver to the master or employer, or his overseer or agent, into whose service he so enters, a certificate of his discharge from the place in which he had been last employed, since the passing of this Act, for a period not less than 14 days, unless he be a person entering into service in the colony for the first time; and any master or employer, or his overseer or agent, employing or entertaining any servant who had been previously in service without requiring and receiving such discharge as aforesaid, shall being lawfully convicted thereof by or before any two or more justices of the peace, forfeit and pay for every such offence the penalty of 5 *l.*, one-half thereof to be paid to the informer in such case.

Penalty for giving false certificates or false discharges.

33. If any person shall knowingly and wilfully pretend or falsely assert in writing that any servant has been hired or retained for any period of time whatsoever, or in any station or capacity whatsoever other than that for which or in which he shall have hired or retained such servant in his service or employment, or for the service of any other person, or shall knowingly and wilfully pretend or falsely assert in writing that any servant was discharged, or left his service at any other time than that at which he was discharged or actually left such service, or that any such servant had not been hired or employed in any previous service, contrary to truth, then and in either of the said cases such person shall forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.* one-half thereof to be paid to the informer in such case.

Punishment for employing or harbourin servants, &c.

34. If any person shall knowingly hire, employ, retain, harbour, conceal, or entertain any servant or apprentice so engaged or bound as aforesaid to any master before the lawful termination of his service, or any labourer having so as aforesaid contracted with any employer before the completion of his contract, every person so offending, being convicted thereof in a summary way before any two or more justices of the peace, shall for every such offence,

offence, forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding 50 *l.*, whereof one moiety shall be paid to the informer or complainant for his own use, and the other moiety to the Colonial Treasurer in aid of the general revenue; provided, that it shall be lawful for the defendant to appeal from such conviction if he thinks fit.

Facilitates mode of redress for the seduction of female apprentices and servants under age.

35. Whenever any action shall be brought by any parent, guardian, or other person by law entitled to bring such action, against the master of any female apprentice or servant under age, for the alleged seduction by such master of such female apprentice or servant whilst in his service, it shall not be necessary to aver that such female apprentice or servant was or continued to be the servant of such parent, guardian, or other person by law entitled to bring such action, or to give evidence of any service or constructive service of any such female apprentice or servant with such parent, guardian, or other person by law entitled to bring such action, but every such action shall and may be maintained without such averment or proof as aforesaid, any law or usage to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Supreme Court to appoint a person to sue in such cases on behalf of female apprentices and servants.

36. If any female apprentice or servant having been so seduced as aforesaid shall have no parent, guardian, or other person who by law can become the plaintiff in any such action against the master of such female apprentice or servant, it shall be lawful for the Supreme Court of Tasmania, or for any judge thereof, upon application in that behalf made by such female apprentice or servant, or by any person authorised for that purpose by such female apprentice or servant, to appoint some person to sue on behalf of such female apprentice or servant as plaintiff in any such action, and upon any such application it shall be lawful for such court or judge, at the discretion of such court or judge, to order that such person shall be so admitted to sue *in formâ pauperis*; and in any such action as last aforesaid it shall not be necessary to aver that such female apprentice or servant was and continued to be the servant of such person so appointed to sue as plaintiff as aforesaid, or to give evidence of any service or constructive service of any such female apprentice or servant with such person, but every such action shall and may be maintained without such averment or proof as aforesaid, any law or usage to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

In formâ pauperis if necessary.

Michael Fenton, Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council this 4th day of February 1856.

Fr. Hartwell Henslowe, Clerk of the Council.

In the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty I assent to this Act.

H. E. F. Young, Governor.

Government House, Hobart Town,
7 February 1856.

EMIGRATION (NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 25 July 1856;—*for*,

"COPIES or EXTRACTS of DESPATCHES relative to EMIGRATION to the NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 464, of Session 1855)."

Colonial Office,
5 February 1857.

JOHN BALL.

(*Mr. John Ball.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
6 *February* 1857.

SCHEDULE.

CANADA.

DESPATCH FROM GOVERNOR-GENERAL SIR E. HEAD, BART.

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		Number of Vessels coming under the operation of the Passengers Act -	5
		Shipwrecks of the "Johns" and "Lochmaben Castle" - - -	6
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		Report of Mr. Hawke, the Chief Agent for Western Canada, as to the results of the past season's Emigration to that section of the Province	15
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NEW BRUNSWICK.

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4	25 June (No. 54) -	Further Arrivals per ship "Liberia" - - - - - - - - The Immigration of this season expected to be small.	
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7	27 May (No. 22) -	Further Arrivals per ship "Clarence;" the greater part of the Passengers proceeded to the United States - - - - - - - - The Immigration this season expected to be unusually small.	34
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COPIES or EXTRACTS of DESPATCHES relative to EMIGRATION to the NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 464, of Session 1855.)

CANADA.

Despatch from Governor-General Sir E. Head, Bart.

— No. 1. —

(No. 29.)

CANADA.

Governor-Gener Sir E. Head, Ba to the Right H H. Labouchere. 11 Feb. 1856.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir *E. Head*, Bart., to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*.

Government House, Toronto, 11 February 1856.

Sir, (Received, 3 March 1856.)

I HAVE the honour to forward the Report of Mr. Buchanan, Emigration Agent at Quebec, enclosing Reports from the other agents, and accompanied by very interesting tables of statistical details.

The report is able and important.

I have called the attention of my Council to the various parts requiring immediate action in the colony.

The number of persons said to have passed over from the United States into Canada, is remarkable.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edmund Head.*

Enclosure in No. 1.

REPORT ON EMIGRATION, 1855.

Encl. in No. 1.

To His Excellency Sir *Edmund Head*, Bart., Governor-General, &c. &c. &c.

Office of Her Majesty's Chief Agent for the Superintendence of Emigration to Canada,
Quebec, 31 December 1855.

May it please your Excellency,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, my annual report of the emigration to this province, during the season of 1855. The usual statistical tables, containing the fullest information, under distinct heads, will be found in the Appendix.

Table No. 1, presents a review of the season's emigration, showing the arrivals by sea from each country, the number embarked, the births and deaths on the passage and in quarantine, distinguishing males and females, adults and children. From this table it will appear that the total number of souls embarked as steerage passengers was 20,207; the births on the passage were 36, giving a total of 20,243; the deaths on the passage were 97, and in quarantine, 36; total mortality, 133; leaving the number of emigrants from the United Kingdom and continent of Europe, landed at this port, 20,110.

Table, No. 1

In addition to this number, there were 686 persons arrived from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Cape Breton, &c., to which is further to be added 478 persons, who were classed as cabin passengers, giving as the total

CANADA.

number of persons landed in the colony, 21,274 souls. This number, when compared with the emigration of 1854, shows the large decrease of 31,909 souls.

The following is a comparative statement of the emigration of the past two years from each country, with the decrease during the season of 1855 :—

Country.	1854.	1855.	Decrease in 1855.
England - - - - - - - -	18,175	6,754	11,421
Ireland - - - - - - - -	16,168	4,106	12,062
Scotland - - - - - - - -	6,446	4,859	1,587
Germany - - - - - - - -	5,688	3,597	2,091
Norway - - - - - - - -	5,849	1,267	4,582
New Brunswick, Cape Breton, &c. - -	857	691	166
	53,183	21,274	31,909

A singular feature in this return, as will be seen, is, that the emigration from Scotland direct exceeds, to a small extent, that from Ireland; and on reference to the emigration to this port from the year 1840, I find the annual average arrivals from Ireland was 18,513, while from Scotland it was but 4,064 persons; and while the decrease of the Irish emigration during the past season shows a falling off of near 300 per cent. that from Scotland is somewhat less than 25 per cent.

Of the emigration under the head of England, 3,854, or upwards of one-half, sailed from the port of Liverpool, a considerable portion of whom were Irish and Germans. On an examination of the lists of the several passenger ships from that port it will appear that the number embarked were, natives of

England - - - - - - -	1,422
Ireland - - - - - - -	1,459
Scotland - - - - - - -	512
Foreign - - - - - - -	461
	3,854

I also find that 51 Irish, 31 Scotch, and 2 Germans arrived here by vessels from other English ports; and that 65 Irish and 5 English came from the port of Glasgow.

The emigration from Europe during the past season may, therefore, be classed as follows:—Natives of

England - - -	4,310	Switzerland - -	99
Ireland - - -	5,691	Italy - - -	10
Scotland - - -	5,348	Denmark - - -	8
Germany - - -	3,815	France - - -	4
Norway - - -	1,288		
Belgium - - -	143		20,716

From this statement it will appear that the foreign emigrants during the past season by this route number 5,367, against 18,018 in 1854.

The causes of this great diminution in our emigration may, in a great measure, be traced to those circumstances which were assumed by me in my last annual report to your Excellency; and on reference to the observations which I therein made, in at least as far as regards the paucity of emigration from Ireland

land (the majority having generally originated from that country) during the last season, I may here reiterate my apprehensions that the same causes will operate on those, however strongly disposed to emigrate, in 1856.

With regard to our foreign emigration, it may be remarked that the numbers have also greatly diminished when compared with the years 1853–54. This, in my opinion, may be attributed to the existence of war, and in some measure to the shortness of time which has elapsed since the settlement of the emigrants of these years, and the prospective advantage which might, after a longer settlement, be held out to the great body of foreigners disposed to emigrate, and to accomplish which are now only waiting for information. I cannot, however, but entertain strong hopes that the termination of the war will be followed by a very considerable flow of emigration from Europe to this province.

On a further reference to this return, it will appear that the number of vessels engaged in the passenger trade from Europe was 188, measuring 101,673 tons, and navigated by 3,550 seamen; of this number, 99 vessels came under the regulation of the Passenger Act, and 89 vessels were exempt. The number from each country was as follows:—

Country.	Vessels under the Act.			Vessels not under the Act.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Passengers.	No.	Tonnage.	Passengers.
England - - -	23	15,644	5,960	53	32,958	850
Ireland - - -	24	11,904	3,854	16	6,399	256
Scotland - - -	26	13,616	4,527	20	10,525	342
Foreign Ports - -	26	10,627	4,891	—	—	—
	99	51,791	19,232	89	49,882	1,448

Of the whole number of ships, 11 brought exclusively cabin passengers; 37 had less than 100 adult passengers; 30 less than 200; 22 under 300; 7 under 400; 2 under 500; and but one vessel, the "James Nesmith," from Liverpool, brought equal to 500 adults; 626 souls.

28 of these vessels made two voyages during the season; viz., 10 from England, 8 from Ireland, and 10 from Scotland.

The whole number of adults which these vessels could have legally carried was 47,286, exclusive of their crews, and the number of adults actually brought out was but 16,761, being but little over one-third of their legal capacity.

The average length of the passage from the United Kingdom was 44 days, and from continental ports 47 days, which presents a more favourable view than that of last year, the average of which was 47, and 58 days.

Table No. 2, presents a return of the ships and passengers arrived from each port and country, with the deaths on the passage, and in quarantine. Table, No. 2.

The deaths during the passage were 97, equal to 0·45 per cent., and in quarantine 36, equal to 0·17 per cent.

The whole number of deaths among 6,821 persons from England, was 67, equal to 0·98 per cent.; 50 of which occurred among the emigration from the port of Liverpool, being equal to 1·29 per cent. on the number from that port; the deaths from all the other English ports were 17, or equal to 0·57 per cent. From Ireland the deaths were but 8, 4 adults, and 4 children, 3 of whom were infants. From Scotland the deaths were 19, equal to 0·38 per cent., 15 of whom died at sea, and 4 in quarantine. And among 3,627 from Germany, 30 deaths occurred, equal to 0·83 per cent.; from Norway among 1,276, 9, equal to 0·70 per cent. Of the 691 emigrants from the lower provinces, 417 came from Cape Breton; they were Scotch, or the descendants of Scotch emigrants, who had been many years settled in that province; and having sold their farms, have emigrated with the intention of settling in Western Canada. They have chiefly proceeded to the settlements on the borders of Lake Huron, where

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where they may combine their former occupation of fishing with agriculture. Of the remainder, 101 were from Nova Scotia; 95 from New Brunswick; and 78 from Newfoundland. They have emigrated with the same view, and have proceeded generally to Western Canada, and a few to the United States.

Table, No. 3.

Table No. 3, presents a general hospital return; and shows the number of emigrant patients admitted for medical relief, with the results at the Quarantine establishment, up to its close on the 31st October; at the Marine and Emigrant Hospital in this city, and the General Hospital in Montreal from the 10th May to this date, from which it will appear that the total number of cases treated at these several institutions, was 686, and the deaths 40; 36 of whom occurred as before stated at Grosse Isle; 3 in this city, and but 1 at Montreal.

This return, when compared with that of 1854, will show a decrease of 961 on the admissions, and 184 on the number of deaths. The emigration on the whole may be considered as healthy, but few or any disease of a contagious

Ship Fever.

nature having appeared, with the exception of ship fever among the passengers per the "St. Lawrence," from Aberdeen. This vessel reached Grosse Isle on the 2d October, and although with but a limited number of passengers, 68 steerage and 12 cabin, three deaths had occurred, and 16 cases were sent to hospital on her arrival at that station, the remainder of her passengers were detained at the healthy division, and 23 more having shortly after evidenced symptoms of the type of this contagious disease, were sent to hospital, all of whom, however, subsequently recovered.

Table, No. 4.

Table No. 4, contains the return of the adult male emigration, distinguishing trades, &c. as specified on the passage list. The total number of males embarked was 7,309, of these there appear to have been 1,465 artisans; farmers and farm servants, 2,007; clerks, 89; servants, 26; and unskilled labourers, 3,722.

Table, No. 5.

Table No. 5 shows a comparative statement of the number of emigrants landed at Quebec since the year 1829 inclusive, amounting in the aggregate to 846,469 souls, affording an average of 31,351 per annum.

Shipwrecks.

I have again to record the loss of two emigrant ships bound to this port, one of which, the "Johns," of Plymouth, lost within 24 hours of her sailing, was attended with a melancholy loss of life; but 95 out of 287 persons were saved. The other, the "Lochmaben Castle," from Liverpool, with 557 passengers, was wrecked on the Bird Island rocks on the 4th June, but happily unattended with any loss of life. The women and children, numbering to 203 souls, were taken from the wreck by Captain Greenhorn, of the ship "Sophia M'Kenzie," and the next day Captain Todd, of the "California," received on board 98 more of the passengers, all of whom were safely landed at Grosse Isle on the 11th of June, where their immediate wants were not only most readily supplied, but every regard evinced to alleviate their painful and distressed situation. As soon as information of her loss reached this port your Excellency was pleased to sanction my despatching a vessel with a supply of provisions to the wreck, in charge of Mr. Symes, with instructions to endeavour to save as much of the property of the passengers as possible, and bring it, as well as the passengers, to this port. On reaching the scene of disaster it was found that the remainder of the passengers had been conveyed to Pictou, and that they were detained there, waiting a conveyance to this port. Mr. Symes immediately chartered a second vessel, the one he had not being sufficient to accommodate them all, and brought them to this port in safety on the 20th July.

These poor people, I regret to observe, unfortunately lost all their luggage, among which there were, I am informed, many valuable articles. Through, however, the instrumentality of Mr. Fox, collector of customs at the Magdalen Islands, and Captain Fortin, of the Government schooner "Canadien," a few boxes were recovered from the crews of fishing craft and others (who had pillaged the wreck) and brought to this port; but some difficulty arose with regard to the identity of these boxes, as, with the exception of two or three, they had been opened, and their contents, to a great extent, mixed up. Such as could be identified were forwarded to the owners, and all the loose articles were sent to the chief emigrant agent at Toronto, in order that they might be claimed by the passengers, the chief part of whom had already proceeded to settle in that section of the province.

I observe

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I observe, from a report of the inquiry ordered by the Board of Trade touching the loss of this vessel, that Captain Turner has not altogether been exonerated from censure; and from the reports of the passengers, and other sources, it would appear that Captain Turner left his ship in charge of his chief mate to seek assistance, and during the period of his absence the crew, who appear to have been a lawless set, broke open the boxes and trunks, and pillaged the property of the passengers. Had Captain Turner remained by his ship, as it was his imperative duty, considering the important responsibilities then devolving upon him, much of this lawless conduct would doubtless have been prevented; and, as there was no immediate danger of the vessel breaking up, the greater part of the passengers' property might have been saved. Mr. Fox reports that "the vessel was plundered of much of her materiel and stores, the passengers' trunks and baggage broken open and destroyed by a portion of the crew, with others belonging to strange vessels in the vicinity."

The painful circumstances attached to the loss of this vessel, as well as those under which its numerous passengers have thereby been placed, would render it highly desirable that the collectors of customs generally should be instructed, in the event of any disaster of a similar character occurring within their jurisdiction, to proceed at once to the wreck, and afford the protection vested in them (and provided for by the Passengers Act), for the preservation of the life and property of the passengers.

It is desirable that the Government schooner, "Canadien," should, in future, be despatched to the gulf as early in the season as practicable, as there is no question, but had Captain Fortin been in the vicinity where this vessel was lost, much, if not the whole, of these unfortunate peoples' luggage could have been saved. It might also be thought worthy of consideration, that the attention of emigrants should be called to the importance of insuring their property, which, from the facility afforded, can now be effected for a trifling sum, and the policy might be deposited with the Government emigration officer at the port of departure, to recover the amount in the event of shipwreck.

The expense incurred by this department for the relief and assistance of the passengers by this vessel, amounting to 842 *l.* 0 *s.* 5 *d.*, has been transmitted, through your Excellency, to Her Majesty's Colonial Secretary, to be recovered from the owner in the manner provided for by the Passenger Act.

Table, No. 6. Paupers.

Table No. 6, furnishes a return of the number of persons sent out by the Poor Law Unions, or through the assistance of the parochial authorities, or by their landlords.

From this return it will appear that 311 persons received landing-money on arriving here, to the amount of 139 *l.* 7 *s.* 6 *d.* sterling, and paid under the superintendence of this department.

From England.

The number from England was 108; among them were 15 boys, sent out by the London Ragged School. They were well supplied with clothes, and received a sum sufficient to convey them to their destination on landing here. They appear industrious well-conducted lads; and 21, chiefly females from the Chatham Union; they received 1 *l.* sterling each adult; 72 from Plymouth and Hull, appear to have received a free passage only.

From Ireland.

The number aided in their emigration from Ireland was 268; 192 (viz., 144 females, and 48 children), were from the Poor Law Unions, and received landing-money amounting to 136 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.* sterling; 76 appear to have received a free passage only. They arrived in good health, and the greater portion of them had relations either in the Upper Province or in the United States, to whom they at once proceeded; such as had no particular destination were forwarded to the rural districts in Western Canada, where they all immediately found employment.

From Scotland.

From Scotland, 395 persons appear to have been assisted to emigrate; 9 families, 65 persons from the Island of Canna, Argyleshire, were provided with a free pasage to this port; and 330 by the "Melissa," from Stornaway, were sent out by Sir James Matheson. These people, with Sir James's usual liberality, were amply provided for during the passage, and on arriving here were served with rations for 10 days, and forwarded free to their destination; 74 to

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Goderich, 44 to Kincardine, 199 to Limerick, in the Eastern Townships, and 13 to other sections of the province, at an outlay of nearly 400 *l.* currency.

Foreign.

The emigrants who were sent out by foreign governments number 408 souls; chiefly from Wirtemburg, from the parishes of Biberach, Marbach, and Pleidelsheim. From the information I have been enabled to collect, they appear to have held small portions of land, which, on giving up to the parish, they were provided with a free passage to this port, and received from 10 *s.* to 1 *l.* each on landing here; they proceeded to Western Canada, chiefly to Hamilton and vicinity, where they all readily found employment amongst the farmers, and from information which I recently received from that section, they appear to be doing well, and giving satisfaction to their employers. These parties arrived generally in good season, and in appearance present a marked improvement to the same class of persons sent out in 1854.

Prosecutions under the Passengers Act.

It was found necessary to institute legal proceedings in one case only, during the past season, under the Passenger Act, against the master of the ship "Crown," from Liverpool, particulars of which are stated in Report, No. 12, page 27 of the Appendix. The proceedings taken in this case for the recovery of the property stolen by the crew, are still pending. The action under the Passenger Act for non-fulfilment of contract by the master to forward a portion of his passengers to Montreal, as required by their contract ticket, has in consequence of the absence of the complainants been deferred. They were allowed to proceed on their journey under the impression that the production of their contract tickets would be received as *primâ facie* evidence of the contract. One of the magistrates having decided that it was necessary to prove the signature to the contract ticket, the parties will therefore have to appear in court in person, but as it was impossible to procure their appearance here before the close of the navigation, the case has been transferred over to the month of June.

A charge was also preferred against Captain Izatt, for ill-treating one of his passengers, and thereby causing his death. This man having been landed in a dying state, coupled with statements by the passengers imputing to the captain the cause of his death, it was deemed advisable to refer the case to a judicial inquest, for which purpose the coroner of the district proceeded to Grosse Isle and empanneled a jury, which, after an examination of witnesses and a *post mortem* examination, returned a verdict "that death was caused by abscesses in the lungs" (*vomica*).

This appears to have been Captain Izatt's first voyage as master of an emigrant ship; and from the numerous complaints of the passengers as to his rough and overbearing conduct, I consider that he is not a fit person to be placed in so responsible a situation. The charges generally being of a personal character, and the parties complaining declining to incur the delay and expense of a prosecution, no further steps were taken than those before-mentioned.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of the emigration department, including the quarantine establishment and the charges connected with the care of the sick, &c., amounts to 10,154 *l.* 3 *s.* currency.

Of this sum there was disbursed, under the direct superintendence of this office, 7,835 *l.* 16 *s.* 5 *d.*, constituted as follows:—

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
For the quarantine establishment - - - -	2,527	7	10			
For the emigration department - - - - -	5,308	8	7			
				7,835	16	5
Cost of steam-boat service for the quarantine station during the season, disbursed by the Board of Works	1,500	–	–			
Six months' salary of inspecting physician for the port of Quebec during the season of navigation - -	318	6	7			
Amount of expenditure incurred for the medical treatment of emigrants admitted to the Marine and Emigrant Hospital, during the year ending 31 December	500	–	–			
				2,318	6	7
			£.	10,154	3	–

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Quarantine.

The several heads of expenditure on account of the quarantine establishment, during the season of 1855, above referred to, are as follows :—

	£.	s.	d.
Pay of officers, staff, &c.	1,925	13	3
Supplies to hospital	295	3	10
Washing	41	17	4
Cartage	63	17	6
Drugs	31	8	7
Coffins, boards, &c.	17	12	–
Stationery, printing, advertising, &c.	48	16	4
Supplies for use of station, &c.	102	19	–
£.	2,527	7	10

Emigration.

The expenditure of the emigration department to 31st December 1855, has been as follows :

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
Quebec Agency :							
For Transport	1,697	5	6				
„ Provisions	60	16	9				
„ Agency charges	90	18	7				
„ Salaries	394	9	–				
				2,243	9	10	Quebec.
Montreal Agency :							
For Transport	1,103	2	6				
„ Provisions	48	3	2				
„ Agency charges	42	9	10				
„ Salaries	233	6	8				
				1,427	2	2	Montreal.
Toronto Agency :							
For Transport	237	16	10				
„ Provisions	85	4	–				
„ Agency charges	171	17	11				
„ Salaries	668	–	–				
				1,162	18	9	Toronto.
Hamilton Agency :							
For Transport	114	–	–				
„ Provisions	42	19	–				
„ Agency charges	47	8	3				
„ Salaries	270	10	7				
				474	17	10	Hamilton.
			£.	5,308	8	7	

From this statement, it will appear that the total direct relief extended to destitute emigrants at the several agencies throughout the province, was 3,389 *l.* 7 *s.* 9 *d.*; viz., for transport 3,152 *l.* 4 *s.* 10 *d.*, provisions 237 *l.* 2 *s.* 11 *d.*, and for agency expenses 1,919 *l.* 0 *s.* 10 *d.*; viz., salaries 1,516 *l.* 6 *s.* 3 *d.*, agency charges, including rent of emigrant sheds, travelling expenses, &c. &c. 352 *l.* 14 *s.* 7 *d.*

Number assisted at Quebec.

The number of persons assisted at the Quebec agency, was 5,078 souls, equal to 3,851½ adults, at an average cost of 8 *s.* 10½ *d.* each; of this number there were,

Adult Males	1,228
„ Females	1,782
Children	1,683
Ditto under three years	385

There were forwarded to Montreal	2,222	at 2 *s.* 11¾ *d.*	average cost.
Western Canada	1,371	at 18 *s.* 7¼ *d.*	„
Ottawa District	44	at 8 *s.* 7¼ *d.*	„
Eastern Townships and United States	212½	at 7 *s.* 5¼ *d.*	„
New Brunswick	2	at 20 *s.*	„

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Montreal.

At Montreal, the number assisted were 2,423 souls, equal to 1,688 adults, at an average cost of 12 *s.* 11 *d.* each; viz.

Adult Males - - - - - - -	336
„ Females - - - - - - -	847
Children - - - - - - -	1,010
Ditto under three years - - - - -	230

Of this number, there were forwarded to Western Canada, 1,519, at 13 *s.* 1 *d.* average cost.

Ottawa District, 82, at 5 *s.* average cost.

United States, 87 ½, at 17 *s.* 3 *d.* average cost.

Foreigners assisted.

Of the above, I find that fully 25 per cent. of the expenditure for transport, has been incurred on account of the foreign emigrants landed at this port. On reference to the account of this and the Montreal agency, it appears that 1,058 Germans, equal to 774 ½ adults, have been forwarded free, chiefly to Western Canada, at an average cost of 15 *s.* 6 *d.* each, and that 258 Norwegians, 173 ½ adults, were forwarded to the Western States, at an average cost of 21 *s.* 9 *d.*

Of the number arrived at this port, it will appear that fully 25 per cent. of the German emigrants have been assisted, and of the Norwegians nearly 20 per cent.

Relief to Shipwrecked Passengers.

The expenditure has been further increased in consequence of the necessity of extending relief to the shipwrecked passengers from the "Lochmaben Castle," after their arrival at this port, to enable them to reach their several destinations, chiefly to Western Canada, involving an outlay of over 200 *l.*

Western Canada.

The number of persons assisted at the agencies in Western Canada have not reached me, but the amount of relief afforded has not been very great, amounting altogether to 479 *l.* 9 *s.* 10 *d.*, 351 *l.* 16 *s.* 10 *d.* of which was expended for transport, and 128 *l.* 3 *s.* for provisions. The charge for agencies during the past year shows an increase of 443 *l.* 2 *s.* 3 *d.* Your Excellency was pleased to sanction the proposal submitted, to place several of the agents and officers of this department, who were paid by the day during the period employed, on a regular salary, so that their entire time should be devoted to the duties of the office; and also to allow a small increase to the salaries of the officers of this department generally.

A change was also made in the Hamilton agency, by placing it on a permanent footing, and more commensurate to its increasing duties and responsibility. This has permitted the services of the agent at Berlin to be dispensed with; these ameliorations will, I feel assured, tend to the advantage of the department generally, and I would also add, that the small addition granted to the pay of the officers has been fully appreciated by them.

The amount of remittances sent by relatives to meet their friends on landing here, to the care of this department during the past season, was 476 *l.* 4 *s.* 3 *d.*, contained in 202 letters; 113, containing 257 *l.* 1 *s.* 9 *d.*, was received at this agency, and 89, 219 *l.* 2 *s.* 6 *d.*, at Montreal; in addition to which, 152 letters of advice and directions were received and delivered during the season.

Report of Mr. Hawke.

At page 15 I beg to submit a copy of the report received from Mr. Hawke, the chief agent for Western Canada, as to the results of the past seasons' emigration to that section of the province; also, at page 14 the report of the sub-agent at Montreal, containing the transactions of the agency under his charge.

To these reports, but more particularly that of Mr. Hawke, I would respectfully refer your Excellency.

Temporary shelter at Toronto and Hamilton required.

The suggestions contained in the extract from the report of the agent at Hamilton, referred to by Mr. Hawke, as to the necessity of providing a place for the temporary shelter of emigrants, both at Hamilton and Toronto, I would respectfully beg to press upon the favourable consideration of your Excellency, and that the necessary authority may be granted to carry Mr. Hawke's recommendation into effect, with the propriety and necessity of which I fully concur, the more particularly as it involves the comfort and health of the emigrant.

Distribution.

The following is submitted as an approximate view of the distribution of the emigrants of the past season. Independent of the emigration which arrives by the

the St. Lawrence, Western Canada receives annually a very considerable accession to her population by the route of the United States, and more recently by the direct emigration of parties who have resided in that country for some years. CANADA.

This latter description of emigrants it would appear from Mr. Hawke's report, is annually on the increase, and he estimates the number during the past season at fully 10,000 souls. Emigration *viâ* United States.

The following I would therefore consider as the probable accession to our population from emigration during the past year:

TOTAL emigrants landed at Quebec		21,274
Arrived in Canada, *viâ* the United States		10,000
		31,274
Foreign emigrants who proceeded direct to the United States	3,500	
British emigrants who proceeded direct to the United States	2,000	
		5,500
Remaining in Canada		25,774

Of this number not more than one-tenth have remained in Eastern Canada, so that the actual accession to the population of Western Canada from emigration during the past season, may be stated at 23,000 souls.

The amount of Emigrant tax realised in course of the past season was as follows: Emigrant Tax.

	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
At Quebec:		
12,862 adults - - 5 *s.* - - -	3,215 10 –	
5,755 children - - 3 *s.* 9 *d.* - - -	1,078 13 9	
21 uncertified - 47 *s.* 6 *d.* - - -	49 17 6	
Penalty under Imperial Act - - - -	9 14 8	
		4,353 15 11
At Montreal:		
464 adults - - 5 *s.* - - -	116 – –	
219 children - - 3 *s.* 9 *d.* - - -	41 1 3	
		157 1 3
TOTAL amount of tax received - - -	- - -	4,510 17 2
Add appropriation of Provincial Legislature -	- - -	1,500 – –
	£.	6,010 17 2

The shipwrecked passengers per "Lochmaben Castle" were exempted from the payment of tax, which otherwise would have realised, in addition to the above, the sum of 123 *l.* 7 *s.* 6 *d.* The emigrant fund has yielded, as above stated, with the addition of 1,500 *l.* voted last session to make good the Imperial appropriation heretofore granted to meet the expense of agencies in the province, but now discontinued, the sum of 6,010 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.* currency.

The expenditure, as before stated, may be set down at 10,154 *l.* 3 *s.*; viz. Receipts and Expenditure.

	£. s. d.
Emigration Department - - - - -	5,308 8 7
Quarantine - - - - - - -	4,027 7 10
Marine and Emigrant Hospital - - - -	500 – –
Salary, Inspecting Physician - - - -	318 6 7

And as the expenditure incurred during the season of 1854 fully absorbed the surplus remaining to the credit of the Emigrant Fund, the deficiency, now amounting to the sum of 4,243 *l.* 6 *s.* 10 *d.*, will require to be provided from other sources. Deficiency.

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The emigrant tax, even with the limited emigration of the last season, would have been found sufficient to meet all the demands of this department and to provide for the care of the sick after arrival, had it been relieved from the charge for quarantine expenses, as it was previous to the year 1847, when the expenses of this latter establishment were defrayed out of the consolidated revenue of the province; and I avail myself of this opportunity, under the conviction of its importance, respectfully to remark to your Excellency, that no charge, originating in the security and protection of the province from the introduction of malignant and infectious diseases, ought with greater propriety to be borne on its general resources. It is a charge in the benefits of which the whole population feel deeply interested, and in which it also equally participates. By thus placing the quarantine establishment on the civil list, it would relieve this department from a heavy charge, and restore the appropriation of its resources to the more immediate benefit and advantage of the emigrants.

Quarantine to be chargeable on Civil List.

This recommendation, I would respectfully observe to your Excellency, will either have to be adopted, or the system of affording relief by this department to the poorer classes of emigrants, to enable them to reach their friends or to be forwarded where suitable employment may be found, will have to be discontinued, to the great disadvantage of the emigrant, and to the great drawback and serious inconvenience of the inhabitants of our cities and towns along the line of our leading route to the west.

The present system has been in operation since the year 1840, and, in my opinion, it has been found advantageous to the emigrant and to the public generally; and without entering into a more extended sense of the advantages of the system, it does not appear that the proceeds of the emigrant tax could be applied in a more beneficial or legitimate manner.

Owing to the existence of regular lines of vessels, sailing at stated periods between the chief Atlantic cities and Europe, emigrants, during the latter part of the season of 1855, have been enabled to secure a passage from Liverpool to New York and Boston, at considerably lower rates than those charged by vessels to this port. This is attributed to the numerous regular vessels found in the trade, and all interested in the obtainment of a few passengers, and it is worthy of remark, that although the enactments of the amended Passenger Law, in force since last October, increase the expense of provisions and limit space, the present rate of passage to New York does not exceed 3*l.* 10*s.* sterling, and I may add, there is every reason to believe that this low rate will be maintained during the summer of 1856. From information which has recently reached me, it is estimated that, under the present law, the rates of passage to Quebec will not be less than from four guineas to 4*l.* 10*s.* sterling, which I need scarcely observe cannot fail of operating in favour of the American vessels; under these circumstances it would appear inexpedient to have recourse to an increased rate of taxation for the purpose of creating a revenue sufficient to meet all the charges attending our annual emigration.

Cost of Passage to American Ports.

Cost of Passage to Quebec.

Inexpediency of increase in present rate of Tax.

It may therefore appear necessary, that your Excellency would be pleased to recommend that a sum not exceeding 4,500 *l.* should be placed on the Estimates to meet the expense of the quarantine establishment. This sum, with 1,500*l.* granted last Session to meet the expense of agencies, owing to the discontinuance of the Imperial appropriation for that purpose, will, with amount of tax now collected, be found fully sufficient to meet all demands consequent on emigration.

Amount required to meet deficiency.

This sum may be considered as the maximum, and is based upon the limited emigration of the past season; as with an increased emigration, we may reasonably expect that the present established duty will permit a considerable reduction to be made in this amount.

Should, however, the result prove otherwise than herein confidently anticipated, it cannot but be fully borne in mind that the many direct benefits and advantages which the country derives from the annual introduction of a vigorous and healthful emigration, comprising not only wealth, intelligence, and labour, but adding value to our forests and cultivated lands, as well as indirectly contributing to the increase of the revenue, will, when these important interests are considered, more than compensate the country, should even the entire charges of emigration be provided from the general resources.

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The returns of the Emigration to the ports of New York and Boston have not yet reached me, but from statements which have appeared in the public papers, the arrivals at New York are estimated at only 134,987 against 319,223 in 1854; thus, giving a decrease of 174,236 on the year, or equal to 130 per cent.; the diminution to Canada by the St. Lawrence during the same period, may be stated at near 150 per cent.; and I apprehend that the emigration of 1856 to this country from the United Kingdom, will not equal that of last year.

Emigration to New York.

There are many causes existing to check it, and, among the most prominent of these causes, none, I would assume, will more effectually tend to affect the emigration movement than the increased prosperity of the agricultural interests in all parts of the United Kingdom, added to a corresponding improvement in the state and condition of the labouring classes. So far as Ireland is concerned, from which country the largest number have heretofore emigrated, the diminution in their numbers during the past season, both to the United States as well as to this province, is strongly marked, and would seem to originate from some more immediate and powerful influences, both social and moral, than to those which I have already submitted. We cannot, however, overlook the direct and prejudicial influences which the return of a great number from the United States must exercise on the minds of those disposed to emigrate from Ireland, whether caused by the diminution of employment, or from the introduction of religious elements into American politics, attendant as these opposing circumstances now are, by a hostile feeling towards foreigners generally. These feelings, so much to be deplored, have in a great measure been fostered and extensively promulgated by parties more immediately interested in retaining the people at home, whose imperfect knowledge of our geographical position fails to enable them to distinguish between this country and the United States. These and other causes, I may be permitted to repeat, cannot but be expected to exercise an important influence upon the emigration of 1856.

Causes of dec in Emigration

In relation to the number of foreigners that may be looked for, I have no reliable data upon which I could be enabled to found a correct estimate; and although the disposition among the population of Germany to emigrate is decidedly on the increase, yet, so long as the present unsettled state of Europe continues, I do not think we can look for such an increase from that quarter as would in any degree compensate for the great diminution in number from the mother country.

With reference to the prospects of 1856, I regret to say that many of the causes to which I had occasion to allude in my report to your Excellency last year, continue to exist, more particularly in this section of the province, where the labour market has been not only extremely depressed, but the emigrants had great difficulty throughout the summer in procuring suitable employment. In the western section of the province, and to which nine-tenths of our emigration proceed, prospects and appearances are, on the whole, much more favourable; in confirmation of which I beg to annex the following report, recently received from Mr. Hawke, on this subject:

Prospects for

"With reference to the prospects of employment for unskilled labourers during the ensuing year, I would beg to observe that they are not so promising as I could desire; many of our railroads are nearly completed, and the labourers that have been employed in their construction will have to seek for employment elsewhere. For a short time this will cause a reduction of wages; but as soon as the surplus labourers scatter themselves throughout our wide-spread and prosperous districts in the interior, they will assume their former state. As I do not anticipate any considerable addition to this class from emigration, I do not apprehend any difficulty in disposing of all emigrants in search of work, who may come to this section of Canada.

Employment i Western Cana

"As to skilled labourers, in which class I include good farm servants, male and female, there is every prospect of their finding employment at good wages.

"Houses are being erected in almost every town, city, and village in Upper Canada, and as the farmers have enjoyed a very unusual degree of prosperity for several years past, farm improvements, and extended as well as superior cultivation have become almost universal; I am, therefore, of the opinion that all mechanics, such as blacksmiths, wheelwrights, tailors, carpenters, masons, bricklayers, shoemakers, &c., as well as agricultural servants who are likely to

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seek employment in Upper Canada in 1856, will be able to obtain it, and that farmers who know how to cultivate their own land will find farms suitable to their means, and, if prudent and industrious, will be sure to succeed."

Emigration, 1855.

The emigration of the past season has, on the whole, been favourable. The most remarkable feature has been the very large proportion who have come out to their relations or friends, and which I estimate at fully three-fourths of the whole emigration. The proportion of sexes and the great decrease in the number of single able-bodied men, when compared with former years, is worthy of remark; while the emigration of 1854 showed an excess of male adults over females of 2,704, during the year 1855 the excess was but 823. In the year 1854, 2,700 single females from the Irish Poor Law Unions were sent out; while during the past season the number of the same class were but 319; thereby giving an excess of males over females in 1854 of 5,404, against 1,142 in 1855.

This numerical difference further tends to confirm the statement which I have already made as to the improved local condition of the labouring classes in the mother country. The demands of the war have no doubt absorbed a good many of this class, who under other circumstances might have contributed to augment the ranks of emigration.

Appendix, No. 7.

At Paper, No. 7, page 22, of the Appendix, will be seen a tariff of passage, distances, and best routes to the chief points in Canada and the Western States, which is distributed gratuitously among all emigrants on arrival at this port.

Some very important changes in the general interests of the emigrants arriving by the route of the St. Lawrence have been effected during the past season. The opening last spring of the Ontario and Simcoe Railroad, from Toronto to Collingwood, connecting at that point with a line of steamers direct to Green Bay and Milwaukie in the State of Wisconsin, and Chicago in Illinois, has proved of material advantage to a large portion of our foreign emigrants.

The Norwegians all proceed to the State of Wisconsin, and the facilities and advantages of this route to parties proceeding to any of the northern ports on Lake Michigan, have been most apparent, and renders it the best route to that quarter. The second, and more important is, the opening of the Grand Trunk Railway from Montreal to Brockville, 126 miles, effecting as it does a most important saving in time to all emigrants proceeding west. Emigrants and all travellers will be enabled, during the ensuing season, to reach Toronto or Hamilton in from 36 to 40 hours, which formerly required from three to four days.

Steamers to England.

These increased facilities in connection with the important arrangement which your Excellency has completed for the establishment of an efficient line of steamers between Liverpool and this port, cannot fail to add materially to the prosperity of the province, and to increase the emigration by this route.

In my report to your Excellency of 1854, I had the honour of submitting some suggestions for the amelioration of the quarantine establishment, and pointing out, what I conceived, would be the advantages attending its removal to a more convenient locality; I would only respectfully add, that the opinions and views then expressed, I have seen no reason to change, on the contrary, I am more fully confirmed in the necessity of carrying them into effect, the result from which would not only be found beneficial to the trade, but to the cause of emigration.

Passenger Act, 1855.

The amended Imperial Passenger Act of 1855, which came into operation on the 1st of October last, but at too late a period to affect any of the ships to this port during the past season, contains some important and beneficial additions, which cannot fail to add materially to the comfort and health of the passengers.

The principal alterations are reducing the number of passengers which ships can carry, as compared with the old law, increasing the amount of nutriment in the dietary scale, and providing for a supply of medical comforts. These ameliorations will tend most materially to remove many of the sources of complaint which heretofore existed.

The instructions transmitted to your Excellency, defining the mode of procedure to be observed in the case of shipwrecked passengers, will also prove of great service.

In concluding this Report, in which I have endeavoured to bring under review the leading points of interest connected with the department entrusted

to

to my superintendence, all of which is respectfully submitted to your Excellency's favourable consideration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. C. Buchanan,*
Chief Agent.

Emigrant Office, Toronto,
26 December 1855.

My dear Sir,

I BEG to submit the following observations on the emigration to this section of the province, in order that you may embody them in your yearly report.

The number of emigrants landed at Quebec, during the year 1854, was 53,184; during the season of 1855, it amounted to only 21,274. This diminution is not, however, peculiar to Quebec, as the returns from New York and Boston show a corresponding reduction. I have, on more than one occasion, called your attention to the fact, that the number of settlers from the United States to Canada has been steadily increasing. This increase is, no doubt, partly owing to the large number of labourers required for the construction of our public works, but it is chiefly to be attributed to the discontent occasioned by the political movements in that country, which clearly show that all persons of foreign birth who settle there must expect to occupy an inferior position to the native Americans, and to be looked upon with suspicion and distrust, and this more especially if they happen to be Roman-catholics. There has also been an increase in the number of emigrants who sailed from the United Kingdom for the American Atlantic ports, with the intention of settling in this province. These combined causes have, during the current year, brought a considerable addition to the population of this section of Canada, and, as far as I can judge, the number is likely to increase. There have been no less than nine such this morning, and seven yesterday; indeed, scarcely a day passes but we have applications for assistance from persons of this description. I have no means of ascertaining the amount thus added to our population, as they enter the province at so many points, extending from Cornwall to Windsor; a very large proportion, however, come by the Rochester route, and settle principally in the counties of Durham, Ontario, York, and Peel. In estimating the number by this route during 1855, at 4,000, I feel that I am rather under than over stating the amount, and at least an equal number may be added for those who enter Canada *viâ* Queenston, the suspension bridge, and Chippawa. As to the number from the ports further west, or from Oswego, Cape Vincent, and Ogdensburg, I have no data upon which it is safe to hazard an opinion, although I am fully convinced that the addition to our population, from all the sources enumerated, exceeds 10,000, which added to the number landed at Quebec (21,274), would make a total of 31,274.

In order to show the probable addition by emigration to our population during 1855, we must deduct the number of emigrants, more than three-fourths of whom are Germans, who proceeded to the Western States. From what I can learn from Mr. Shartruppe, the German railroad agent at Toronto, and the German emigrant agent under Mr. Dixon, at Hamilton, it did not exceed 3,500, which would leave 27,774 as the addition to the population of Canada.

According to Mr. Dixon's report, who you are aware was not appointed as emigrant agent at Hamilton until late in June last, as well as from other information, it appears that upwards of 10,000 emigrants landed at Hamilton, who have either found employment or settled west of that port, and that the remainder have been similarly disposed of, in the counties of York, Peel, Simcoe, and the eastern counties of Upper Canada.

The emigrants by the St. Lawrence, were with few exceptions able-bodied, but poor people, who required assistance in food and free passages, as well as information, to enable them to reach their places of destination.

The total expenditure, as you will perceive from the returns made from this office, on account of emigration in Upper Canada, for the year 1855, amounts to 1,637 *l.* 16 *s.* 6 *d.*

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The increase in the agency expenses, is attributable to the establishment of an additional agency at Hamilton.

In a letter dated the 12th instant, which I received from Mr. Dixon, he says, "There is one subject which I wish to submit to the consideration of the Government, and which appears to me essential to the systematic working of the department in Hamilton, viz., the procuring of proper emigrant sheds. As the head of navigation, it is subject sometimes, at an unseasonable hour, to the debarkation of a number of poor and helpless emigrants, without means of procuring any place, however miserable, to shield themselves from the midnight cold and rain. If such accommodation be really necessary, during a season of almost unexampled health, together with a sparse emigration, it will be much more necessary in an unhealthy season thronged with emigrants. I therefore beg to submit these remarks for consideration at the close of the season, so that if it is deemed advisable, proper steps may be taken during the winter for securing such necessary accommodation. as will obtain an efficient administration of the department during the next season."

In all that Mr. Dixon says I fully concur, and it is quite as applicable to Toronto as Hamilton. The population of this city has increased so rapily that those who have means often find it difficult to obtain lodgings, and the poor emigrant can, therefore, often obtain no better shelter during his temporary sojourn than an open shed. I have not pressed the matter upon the consideration of the Government at an earlier date, because it has, up to a late period, been doubtful as to where the railroad stations would be permanently established. The spots being now decided upon, I would beg to recommend that I may be authorized to lease a convenient ground plot, either from the railroad authorities or private individuals, and to erect suitable emigrant sheds thereon, at Toronto and Hamilton.

I am, &c.
(signed) *A. B. Hawke,*
Chief Emigrant Agent for Upper Canada.

A. C. Buchanan, Esq.,
Chief Emigrant Agent, Quebec.

Emigration Office, Montreal,
13 December 1855.

Sir,

Enclosed, I beg leave to send you,

1. The statement showing the total number of indigent emigrants assisted from each ship during the season of 1855.

2. Ditto, showing the number of indigent emigrants from the continent of Europe assisted ditto.

3. Ditto, showing the number forwarded to sundry parts of the province ditto. Upon which I beg to make the following remarks:—

From the return of the Montreal General Hospital, which was sent to you with my letter of the 10th instant, you will please see that the number of sick emigrants admitted at my request was only 13, out of which one died, and the remainder were discharged.

The Return, No. 1, shows that at this office there were assisted 2,423 persons, equal to 1,688 adults, at an average cost of 12*s.* 11*d.*, against 11*s.* 5½*d.* in 1854. Of this number there were:

Male adults	336
Female adults	847
Children	1,010
Ditto under three years	230

Out

Out of the foreign emigration, chiefly consisting of Germans, as Return, No. 2, will show, there were 391 persons assisted, equal to 283½ adults, at an average cost of 15*s.*

These consisted of,

Male adults - - - - - - -	104
Female adults - - - - - - -	121
Children - - - - - - - -	117
Ditto under three years - - - -	49

The Return, No. 3, gives the number of emigrants as sent to or towards their different destinations, out of which it will be seen that only very few have been sent to the United States, while by far the greatest number was forwarded to Toronto and Hamilton.

The amount of remittances received for emigrants, in answer to applications transmitted from this office, was 219*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* in 89 letters; they were all delivered, and the amount paid over to the parties who it was sent for.

The necessity of assisting all the shipwrecked emigrants of the unfortunate vessel the "Lochmaben Castle," has greatly added to the expenses at this office, as from this vessel alone 284 persons, equal to 223 adults, have been forwarded at an expense of over 100*l.* At different periods there have been applications made to this office, chiefly by Germans of the State of Pensylvania, for information with regard to the price of land, the rates of wages, the climate, &c., which have been answered to by Mr. Schmidt, who still corresponds at present with some parties possessing considerable means, who have come to the conclusion to settle in Canada. They have also been referred to Mr. Hawke in Toronto, for more minute information.

The emigration of the past season, has, on the whole, although very small compared with that of last year, in my humble opinion, proved to be very satisfactory, inasmuch as it was not accompanied by sickness of any consequence, and as it has brought a great number of emigrants with means to our shores, who came with the intention to remain in Canada, and have actually done so.

In conclusion, I beg to express my hopes that the emigration of 1856 may prove still more prosperous and satisfactory.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *A. Conlan,*
Sub-Agent.

A. C. Buchanan, Esq.,
Chief Emigrant Agent, Quebec.

No. 1.

RETURN of the Number of Emigrants Embarked, with the Number of Births and Deaths during the Voyage and in Quarantine, the Total Number landed at *Quebec*, distinguishing Males from Females and Adults from Children, with the Number of Souls from each Country; also the Number of Vessels, Tonnage, and Seamen Employed, and the Average Length of Passage, during the Season of 1855.

WHENCE.	Number of Vessels.	Average Days on Passage.	Tonnage.	Number of Seamen.	NUMBER EMBARKED.							BIRTHS.		Total Souls on Board.	DEATHS ON THE PASSAGE.					
					Cabin Passengers.	Adults.		Children, 1 to 14 Years.		Infants.	Total Steerage.				Adults.		Children, 1 to 14 Years.		Infants.	TOTAL.
						M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.		
England	76	45	48,602	1,613	181	2,361	1,876	1,081	988	323	6,629	5	6	6,821	2	4	17	9	10	42
Ireland	40	44	18,303	649	52	1,289	1,528	582	546	113	4,058	4	–	4,114	1	2	–	–	3	6
Scotland	46	43	24,141	896	217	1,637	1,403	709	667	236	4,652	4	5	4,878	2	5	2	4	2	15
Germany	18	48	7,473	270	23	1,310	1,032	556	515	180	3,593	6	5	3,627	4	2	4	6	10	26
Norway	8	45	3,154	122	- -	461	396	172	189	57	1,275	–	1	1,276	1	–	2	4	1	8
New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, &c.	42	- -	6,599	310	5	251	200	112	101	22	686	–	–	691	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	230	44 ½	108,272	3,860	478	7,309	6,435	3,212	3,006	931	20,893	19	17	21,407	10	13	25	23	26	97

WHENCE.	DEATHS IN QUARANTINE.						TOTAL DEATHS.	TOTAL LANDED IN THE COLONY.									GRAND TOTAL Landed in the Colony.
	Adults.		Children, 1 to 14 Years.		Infants.	Total.		Adults.		Children, 1 to 14 Years.		Total.		Infants.	Total Steerage.	Cabin Passengers.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
England	8	- -	7	6	4	25	67	2,351	1,872	1,057	973	3,408	2,845	320	6,573	181	6,754
Ireland	1	- -	- -	1	- -	2	8	1,287	1,526	582	545	1,869	2,071	114	4,054	52	4,106
Scotland	- -	- -	3	- -	1	4	19	1,635	1,398	704	663	2,339	2,061	242	4,642	217	4,859
Germany	3	- -	- -	1	- -	4	30	1,303	1,030	552	508	1,855	1,538	181	3,574	23	3,597
Norway	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	9	459	396	170	185	629	581	57	1,267	- -	1,267
New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, &c.	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	251	200	112	101	363	301	22	686	5	691
TOTAL	13	- -	10	8	5	36	133	7,286	6,422	3,177	2,975	10,463	9,397	936	20,796	478	21,274

Deaths on Passage, 0·45 per cent. Deaths in Quarantine, 0·17 per cent. Total Deaths on the number Embarked, 0·62 per cent.

Emigration Department, Quebec,
December 1855.

A. C. Buchanan,
Chief Agent.

No. 2.

ABSTRACT STATEMENT of the Number of Emigrants Embarked, Births on the Passage, with the Number died at Sea and in Quarantine, and Total Landed in the Colony; distinguishing the Countries, and Ports whence they Sailed, during the Season of 1855.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

PORTS WHENCE SAILED.	No. of Vessels.	Passengers.		Births.	Total.	Deaths.		Landed in the Colony.	
		Steerage.	Cabin.			At Sea.	Quarantine.	1855.	1854.
Aberystwith	1	4	-	-	4	-	-	4	—
Bideford	2	34	-	-	34	1	-	33	—
Bristol	4	33	3	-	36	-	-	36	85
Cardiff	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
Carlisle	1	49	-	-	49	-	-	49	146
Falmouth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	58
Fowey	3	132	-	-	132	1	-	131	391
Grangemouth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Hull	6	532	28	1	561	2	2	557	1,060
Ipswich	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Liverpool	35	3,802	52	8	3,862	32	18	3,812	13,225
London	9	204	63	1	268	-	1	267	313
Maryport	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Milford	1	6	-	-	6	-	-	6	—
Newcastle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Newport	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Poole	1	19	-	-	19	-	-	19	22
Plymouth	7	1,734	25	1	1,760	6	4	1,750	2,683
Portsmouth	2	5	8	-	13	-	-	13	—
Shields	1	17	-	-	17	-	-	17	13
Sunderland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
St. Ives	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Swansea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Teignmouth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Torquay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Truro	2	48	2	-	50	-	-	50	—
Whitehaven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Workington	1	10	-	-	10	-	-	10	18
	76	6,629	181	11	6,821	42	25	6,754	18,175

IRELAND.

Belfast	1	130	-	-	130	-	-	130	935
Cork	3	183	6	-	189	-	-	189	2,558
Donegal	1	4	-	-	4	-	-	4	—
Dublin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,528
Galway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	263
Limerick	9	1,047	6	-	1,053	3	-	1,050	4,934
Londonderry	2	277	9	-	286	1	-	285	265
New Ross	7	1,146	10	2	1,158	1	1	1,156	2,492
Newry	1	27	2	-	29	-	-	29	24
Skibbereen	1	10	-	-	10	-	-	10	—
Sligo	4	195	3	-	198	-	-	198	396
Tralee	2	711	13	2	726	1	1	724	1,417
Waterford	7	203	3	-	206	-	-	206	1,056
Westport	2	125	-	-	125	-	-	125	—
Wexford	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	147
Youghal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	153
	40	4,058	52	4	4,114	6	2	4,106	16,168

SCOTLAND.

PORTS WHENCE SAILED.	Number of Vessels.	Passengers.		Births.	Total.	Deaths.		Landed in the Colony.	
		Steerage.	Cabin.			At Sea.	Quarantine.	1855.	1854.
Aberdeen	12	1,347	75	3	1,425	10	1	1,414	1,606
Alloa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Annan	1	8	—	—	8	—	—	8	—
Arbroath	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46
Ardrossan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	93
Banff	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	152
Dumfries	1	13	—	—	13	—	—	13	56
Dundee	1	19	—	—	19	—	—	19	28
Fraserburg	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	113
Glasgow	25	2,387	116	3	2,506	5	2	2,499	2,114
Greenock	1	267	—	1	268	—	—	268	1,786
Leith	1	—	10	—	10	—	—	10	48
Lewis (Isle)	1	330	—	1	331	—	—	331	—
Montrose	2	281	—	1	282	—	1	281	358
Stromness	1	—	16	—	16	—	—	16	—
Troon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44
	46	4,652	217	9	4,878	15	4	4,859	6,446

GERMANY.

Antwerp	2	447	—	3	450	11	1	438	388
Bremen	7	1,561	23	5	1,589	5	—	1,584	776
Hamburg	9	1,585	—	3	1,588	10	3	1,575	4,524
	18	3,593	23	11	3,627	26	4	3,597	5,688

NORWAY AND SWEDEN.

Arendal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	188
Bergen	1	229	—	—	229	—	—	229	1,452
Christiana	2	386	—	1	387	7	—	380	1,741
Drammen	1	214	—	—	214	—	—	214	319
Gothenburg	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	263
Krageroe	1	17	—	—	17	—	—	17	523
Lurwig	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Osterrisor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	60
Porsgrund	2	239	—	—	239	—	—	239	500
Stuvanger	1	190	—	—	190	1	1	188	620
Walo Sulvark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	176
	8	1,275	—	1	1,276	8	1	1,267	5,849

LOWER PORTS.

New Brunswick	7	95	—	—	95	—	—	95	—
Nova Scotia	16	96	5	—	101	—	—	101	—
Cape Breton	7	417	—	—	417	—	—	417	—
Newfoundland	12	78	—	—	78	—	—	78	—
	42	686	5	—	691	—	—	691	857

RECAPITULATION.

PORTS WHENCE SAILED.	Number of Vessels.	Passengers.		Births.	Total.	Deaths.		Landed in the Colony.	
		Steerage.	Cabin.			At Sea.	Quarantine.	1855.	1854.
England - - - -	76	6,629	181	11	6,821	42	25	6,754	18,175
Ireland - - - -	40	4,058	52	4	4,114	6	2	4,106	16,168
Scotland - - - -	46	4,652	217	9	4,878	15	4	4,859	6,446
Germany - - - -	18	3,593	23	11	3,627	26	4	3,597	5,688
Norway and Sweden -	8	1,275	–	1	1,276	8	1	1,267	5,849
Lower Ports - - -	42	686	5	–	691	–	–	691	857
	230	20,893	478	36	21,407	97	36	21,274	53,183

Emigration Department, Quebec, December 1855.

A. C. Buchanan,
Chief Agent.

No. 3.

RETURN of the Number of Admissions into Hospital, Discharges, and Deaths of Emigrants arrived during the Season of 1855.

	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remain.
Grosse Isle Hospital - - - - -	432	396	36	—
Marine and Emigrant Hospital, Quebec - -	240	212	3	17
General Hospital, Montreal - - - -	14	13	1	—
	686	621	40	17

Emigration Department, Quebec, December 1855.

A. C. Buchanan,
Chief Agent.

No. 4.

RETURN of Trades and Callings of the Emigrants who arrived at the Ports of *Quebec* and *Montreal*, during the Year 1855.

Bakers	36	Saddlers	11
Butchers	18	Sailmakers	4
Braziers, Plumbers, and Tinsmiths	9	Sawyers	6
Bookbinders and Printers	13	Shipbuilders	2
Bricklayers and Stone masons	118	Shoemakers	167
Cabinet-makers and Turners	9	Smiths	127
Carpenters and Joiners	239	Stone-cutters	13
Cart and Wheelwrights	36	Tailors	153
Coachmakers	2	Watch and Clock-makers	21
Coopers	27	Wool and Flax-dressers	9
Curriers	4	Weavers	64
Dyers	4	Servants	26
Engineers	21	Unenumerated Callings	159
Gardeners	24	Farm Labourers	2,007
Hatters	1	Common ditto	3,722
Millers and Millwrights	88		7,309
Miners	35	Deaths of Male Adults at Sea 97	
Merchants and Clerks	89	Quarantine 36	133
Moulders and Foundrymen	13		
Painters and Glaziers	19	TOTAL	7,176
Paper-makers	3		
Plasterers	9		
Ropemakers	1		

Emigration Department, Quebec, December 1855.

A. C. Buchanan, Chief Agent.

No. 5.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Number of Emigrants arrived at the Port of *Quebec* since the Year 1829 inclusive.

COUNTRY.	5 years, from 1829 to 1833.	5 years, from 1834 to 1838.	5 years, from 1839 to 1843.	5 years, from 1844 to 1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	TOTAL.
England	43,386	28,561	30,791	60,453	8,980	9,887	9,677	9,276	9,585	18,175	6,754	235,525
Ireland	102,266	54,904	74,981	112,192	23,126	17,976	22,381	15,983	14,417	16,168	4,106	458,500
Scotland	20,143	11,061	16,311	12,767	4,984	2,879	7,042	5,477	4,745	6,446	4,859	96,714
Continent of Europe	15	485	- -	9,728	436	849	870	7,256	7,456	11,537	4,864	43,496
Lower Ports	1,889	1,346	1,777	1,219	968	701	1,106	1,184	496	857	691	12,234
	167,699	96,357	123,860	196,359	38,494	32,292	41,076	39,176	36,699	53,183	21,274	846,469

Emigration Department, Quebec, December 1855.

A. C. Buchanan, Chief Agent.

No. 6.

RETURN of the Number of Persons who received Assistance to Emigrate from the United Kingdom and the Continent, with Amount paid them on Landing, during the Season of 1855.

DATE.	SHIP.	Whence.	Number of Souls.	Class. M.	Class. F.	Class. C.	By whom Sent out.	Amount Paid by Emigration Department.	Amount Paid by Different Agents.	REMARKS.
								£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
17 May	Siam	Plymouth	25	7	11	7	Parish of Petersport, Guernsey.	- - -	- - -	
18 „	Fergus	Hull	37	5	6	26	Several parishes	- - -	- - -	Free passage only to Quebec.
19 „	Rose	Plymouth	10	1	1	8	Parish of Morvenston	- - -	- - -	
15 June	Lochmaben Castle	Liverpool	6	-	6	-	Sir F. Foster	4 10 -	—	
16 „	Russia	Sligo	16	-	11	5	Sligo Union	14 7 6	—	
27 „	Erin	New Ross	7	1	2	4	New Ross Union	- - -	- - -	Free passage only to Quebec.
12 July	Ann Thompson	London	10	1	2	7	Parish	- - -	6 10 -	
12 „	Favorite	New Ross	23	9	11	3	Earl Fitzwilliam	- - -	- - -	Free passage only to Quebec.
26 „	James Nesmith	Liverpool	30	-	16	14	Castlecomer Union	23 - -	—	
26 „	Ditto	- ditto	11	11	-	-	London Ragged School	12 - -	—	
7 August	Charlotte Harrison	Greenock	65	24	26	15	Lord O'Neil	- - -	- - -	Free passage only to Quebec.
21 „	Melissa	Isle of Lewis	330	101	74	155	Sir Jas. Matheson	- - -	328 - -	Paid inland transport from Quebec.
27 „	Dunbrody	New Ross	52	-	43	9	Gorey Union	52 - -	—	
1 Sept.	Crown	Liverpool	22	4	4	14	Naas Union	—	—	
1 „	Ditto	- ditto	8	1	6	1	Chatham Union	7 10 -	—	
19 „	St. Patrick	- ditto	24	-	24	-	Drogheda Union	—	—	
19 „	Ditto	- ditto	13	2	2	9	Chatham Union	8 10 -	—	
19 „	Ditto	- ditto	4	4	-	-	London Ragged School	4 17 4	—	
19 „	Ditto	- ditto	1	-	1	-	Londonderry Union	1 - -	—	
30 „	Boreas	New Ross	93	-	73	20	New Ross Union	46 10 -	—	
			787	171	319	297	£.	174 4 10	334 10 -	

CONTINENTAL.

3 June	Charles Challoner	Liverpool	10	1	2	7	Government of Baden	- -	8 - -	
4 July	Diana	Bremen	35	7	12	16	Government of Saxe and Wirtemburg.	- -	19 - -	
8 „	John Howell	Liverpool	85	27	23	35	Government of Wirtemburg.	- -	81 - -	
18 „	Johannes	Hamburg	8	2	3	3	Government of Saxe Meiningen.	- -	8 - -	
18 „	Richard Alsop	Antwerp	140	47	36	57	Government of Prussia and Wirtemburg.	- -	92 - -	
19 Sept.	St. Patrick	Liverpool	130	37	34	59	- - ditto - ditto	- -	84 - -	
			408	121	110	177	£.	- -	292 - -	

RECAPITULATION.

From	ENGLAND. Number.	ENGLAND. Amount.	IRELAND. Number.	IRELAND. Amount.	SCOTLAND. Number.	SCOTLAND. Amount.	CONTINENT. Number.	CONTINENT. Amount.
		£. s. d.		£. s. d.		£. s. d.		£. s. d.
Parish Funds	36	32 17 4	198	141 7 6	-	- - -	408	292 - -
Private Funds	10	6 10 -	-	- - -	330	328 - -	-	-
Free Passage only	72	- - -	76	- - -	65	—	-	—
	118	39 7 4	274	141 7 6	395	328 - -	408	292 - -

Emigration Department, Quebec, December 1855.

A. C. Buchanan, Chief Agent.

No. 7.

INFORMATION for Emigrants to *Canada* and the Northern and Western States of of *America*; showing the Routes, Distances, and Rates of Passage from *Quebec* to the principal Points.

ROUTES.

ROUTE No. 1.—From Quebec through Canada to Windsor (on the Detroit River, the most westerly point of Upper Canada,) and to the Western States: Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa; proceeding by Grand Trunk Railway or steamer from Quebec *viâ* Montreal, Kingston, and Toronto to Hamilton, thence by the line of the Great Western Railway from Hamilton to Detroit, thence to Chicago by Michigan Central Railroad, from Chicago by steamer up Lake Michigan to Milwaukie, or by railroad to Galena on the Mississippi, or to St. Louis in the State of Missouri, or by the Ontario, Simcoe, and Huron Railway from Toronto to Collingwood, 93 miles—whence steamers leave for Green Bay to Manitouac, Sheboygan, Milwaukie, and Chicago.

The Grand Trunk Railway of Canada being now open to Brockville, 293 miles west of Quebec, passengers for any point on this route, and Route No. 2, are enabled to avoid the detention consequent upon the navigation of the St. Lawrence canals, and thereby save in time about 24 hours, thus effecting an important economy.

The route *viâ* Quebec to either of the above districts is superior to that from any other port in America.

Route No. 2.—From Quebec to places on the American side of the St. Lawrence, and Lakes Ontario and Erie, and to the Northern and Western States.

Passengers for this route proceed by steamer or Grand Trunk Railway from Quebec to Montreal; thence to Ogdensburgh; at Ogdensburgh they are transhipped into a lake steamer for Niagara or Lewiston, and intermediate ports. From Lewiston they are carried by railway to Buffalo; from Buffalo steamers convey them up Lake Erie to Detroit and intermediate ports. Along this route passengers are carried to parts of Western New York and Pennsylvania, to the States of Ohio and Michigan, and from various points along the line, communications by railway and canal to Cincinnatti in Ohio, Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania, Louisville in Kentucky.

Route No. 3.—From Quebec to the Eastern Townships of Lower Canada, to the New England States of America, and to New Brunswick.

Passengers proceed from Quebec by the Grand Trunk Railway passing through Richmond and Sherbrooke in the Eastern Townships, and thence through the State of Vermont, Massachusetts, and Maine, to Portland. From Portland trains and steamers connect daily with Boston, and to all places in the States of Connecticut and New Hampshire.

Also, from Portland steamers leave twice a week for St. Andrew's, and St. John, New Brunswick.

Route No. 4.—From Quebec to the Ottawa District and places on the Rideau Canal.

Passengers proceed by steamer or Grand Trunk Railway to Montreal, and from Montreal to Ottawa City (late Bytown) and places on the Rideau Canal by steamer every evening, or continue by the Grand Trunk Railway, which connects at Prescott with the Ottawa and Prescott Railway. Those proceeding to Perth, Lanark, or any of the adjoining settlements, should land at Oliver's Ferry on the Rideau Canal, seven miles from Perth. This is the best route to the settlements in the Bathurst district.

Route No. 5.—From Quebec to Troy, Albany, New York, Philadelphia.

Passengers proceed by steamer or Grand Trunk Railway to Montreal, and from Montreal by railroad to Rouse's Point, on Lake Champlain; thence by steamer to Burlington and Whitehall: by rail to Troy or Albany; and by steamer or railway down the Hudson River to New York City.

DISTANCES AND FARES FROM QUEBEC.

See the explanation of Route.	PLACES.	Miles distant from Quebec.	STEERAGE FARE. £. s. d. Sterling.	STEERAGE FARE. $ cts.	CABIN FARE. £. s. d. Sterling.	CABIN FARE. $ cts.	REMARKS.
	CANADA:						
1	Barrie	599	1 3 1	5 75	2 16 –	14 –	Railway from Toronto, 60 miles.
1	Belleville, Bay Quinte	419	– 15 –	3 75	2 – –	10 –	Steamer from Kingston.
1	Bondhead	493	– 17 –	4 25	2 8 –	12 –	Steamer from Montreal.
1	Brockville	319	– 9 –	2 25	1 8 –	7 –	Steamer, G. T. Rail. from Montreal.
1	Chatham	730	1 9 –	7 25	3 6 –	16 50	Railway from Hamilton.
1	Cobourg	472	– 15 –	3 75	2 2 –	10 50	Steamer from Montreal.
1	Collingwood	630	1 6 –	6 50	3 – –	15 –	Railway from Toronto.
1	Darlington	497	– 17 –	4 25	2 8 –	12 –	Steamer from Montreal.
1	Eckford	686	1 8 –	7 –	3 4 –	16 –	Railway from Hamilton.
1	Hamilton	590	– 19 –	4 75	2 10 –	12 50	Steamer from Montreal.
1	Holland Landing	583	1 1 6	5 37 ½	2 13 6	13 37 ½	Railway from Toronto.
1	Ingersoll	637	1 5 –	6 25	2 17 –	14 25	Railway from Hamilton.
1	Kingston	369	– 11 –	2 75	1 15 –	8 75	Steamer from Montreal.
1	King	569	1 – 6	5 12 ½	2 12 –	13 –	Railway from Toronto.
1	London	666	1 6 –	6 50	3 – –	11 –	Railway from Hamilton.
1	Lefroy	598	1 2 6	5 62 ½	2 15 –	13 75	Railway from Toronto.
1	Montreal	180	– 3 –	– 75	– 14 –	3 50	Steamer or G. T. Railway.
2	Niagara	587	– 19 –	4 75	2 11 –	12 75	Ditto, from Montreal.
1	Nottawasago	621	1 5 –	6 25	2 19 –	14 75	Railway from Toronto.
1	Newmarket	589	1 1 –	5 25	2 13 –	13 25	Railway from Toronto, 30 miles.
4	Ottawa City (late Bytown)	309	– 7 –	1 75	1 18 –	9 50	Steamer or Rail from Montreal.
4	Oliver's Ferry, Rideau Canal	379	– 11 –	2 75	2 1 –	10 25	Steamer or Rail from Montreal.
1	Paris	610	1 2 –	5 50	2 15 –	13 75	Railway from Hamilton.
4	Perth (Bathurst district)	386	– 11 –	2 75	2 1 –	10 25	From Oliver's Ferry, seven miles.
1	Port Hope	478	– 15 –	3 75	2 2 –	10 50	Steamer from Montreal.
1	Prescott	307	– 9 –	2 25	1 8 –	7 –	Steamer from Montreal.
1	Richmond-hill	564	1 – –	5 –	2 11 6	12 87 ½	Railway from Toronto.
3	Sherbrooke	124	– 10 –	2 50	– 16 –	4 –	Grand Trunk Railway.
1	St. Catharine's	623	1 3 –	5 75	2 16 –	14 –	Steamer from Toronto.
1	Sunnidale	615	1 4 6	6 12 ½	2 18 –	14 50	Railway from Toronto.
1	Toronto	547	– 19 –	4 75	2 10 –	12 50	Steamer from Montreal.
1	Thornhill	561	1 – –	5 –	2 11 –	12 75	Railway from Toronto.
1	Whitby	517	– 19 –	4 75	2 10 –	12 50	Steamer from Montreal.
1	Woodstock	638	1 5 –	6 25	2 15 –	13 75	Railway from Hamilton.
3	St. Andrew's, New Brunswick	629	2 – –	8 50	2 12 –	13 –	G. T. R. to Portland, and thence by steamer.
3	St. John ditto	679	2 – –	9 –	2 14 –	13 50	
	UNITED STATES:						
5	Albany (New York)	436	1 – –	5 –	2 1 –	10 25	Railway from Montreal.
2	Buffalo ditto	647	1 3 –	5 75	2 12 –	13 –	Steamer from Montreal.
3	Boston (City)	419	1 4 –	6 –	2 6 –	11 50	Grand Trunk Railway.
5	Burlington	270	– 11 –	2 75	1 6 –	6 50	Railway from Montreal.
2	Cape Vincent	370	– 11 –	2 75	1 14 –	8 50	Steamer from Montreal.
1	Chicago, Illinois	1,054	1 19 –	9 75	4 15 –	23 75	Per G. W. R. from Hamilton.
2	Cleveland, Ohio	841	1 9 –	7 25	3 5 –	16 25	Steamer from Buffalo.
2	Cincinnati, Ohio	1,120	2 3 –	10 75	4 10 –	22 50	*Viâ* Buffalo and Sandusky.
2	Columbus, Ohio	976	1 18 –	9 50	4 – –	20 –	*Viâ* Buffalo and Sandusky.
1	Detroit, Michigan	776	1 9 –	7 25	3 10 –	17 50	Per G. W. R. from Hamilton.
1	Galena, Illinois	1,224	2 15 –	13 75	6 – –	30 –	*Viâ* Hamilton and Chicago.
2	Lewiston (New York)	616	– 19 –	4 75	2 8 –	12 –	Steamer from Montreal.
2	Louisville, Kentucky	1,200	2 – –	10 –	5 5 –	26 25	*Viâ* Buffalo and Sandusky.
3	Lawrence, Massachusetts	380	1 5 –	6 25	2 8 –	12 –	Grand Trunk Railway.
1	Monroe, Michigan	955	1 11 –	7 75	3 10 –	17 50	Steamer from Buffalo.
1	Milwaukie, Wisconsin	1,144	2 1 –	10 25	5 – –	25 –	G. W. Railway from Hamilton.
5	New York (City)	576	1 – –	5 –	2 6 –	11 50	S. and R. from Montreal.

(*continued*)

See the explanation of Route.	PLACES.	Miles distant from Quebec.	STEERAGE FARE. £. s. d. Sterling.	STEERAGE FARE. $ cts.	CABIN FARE. £. s. d. Sterling.	CABIN FARE. $ cts.	REMARKS.
	UNITED STATES—*continued.*						
2	Ogdensburgh	318	– 9 –	2 25	1 8 –	7 –	Steamer from Montreal.
2	Oswego	466	– 17 –	4 25	2 – –	10 –	Steamer from Montreal.
3	Portland, Maine	316	1 – –	5 –	1 14 –	8 50	Grand Trunk Railway.
2	Pittsburgh, Penn.	981	1 18 –	9 50	4 – –	20 –	*Viâ* Buffalo and Cleveland.
2	Rochester	529	– 19 –	4 75	2 4 –	11 –	Steamer from Montreal.
2	Sackett's Harbour	422	– 15 –	3 75	1 18 –	9 50	Steamer from Montreal.
2	Sandusky, Ohio	901	1 11 –	7 75	3 10 –	17 50	By steamer from Buffalo.
1	St. Louis, Missouri	1,239	3 – –	15 –	6 – –	30 –	*Viâ* Hamilton and Chicago.
2	Toledo, Ohio	947	1 11 –	7 75	3 9 –	17 25	*Viâ* steamer from Buffalo.
5	Troy (New York)	430	1 – –	5 –	2 1 –	10 25	Railway from Montreal.
	New Northern Route:						
1	Green Bay (Wisconsin)	1,091	1 15 –	8 75	4 13 –	23 25	By the Ontario, Simcoe, and Huron Railway from Toronto to Collingwood, 91 miles; thence by first-class steamers.
1	Manitouwoc ditto	1,087	1 14 –	8 50	4 – –	20 –	
1	Scheboygan ditto	1,113	1 14 –	8 50	4 4 –	21 –	
1	Milwaukie ditto	1,163	1 14 –	8 50	4 8 –	22 –	
1	Chicago (Illinois)	1,247	1 14 –	8 50	4 12 –	23 –	

Note.—The Railways are necessarily somewhat more expensive than the water conveyance—the difference being a little more than a dollar between Quebec and Brockville—but they afford great advantages in the saving of time.

Passengers paying Cabin fare are found in Provisions on board the Steamers, and forwarded by the Mail Steamers, and if by Railway, in first-class carriages. By the Railroads 100 lbs. of luggage is allowed to each passenger, all over that quantity will be charged extra.

Throughout these passages, Children under 12 years of age are charged half price, and those under three years are free.

The Gold Sovereign is at present worth 24 *s.* 4 *d.*; the English Shilling, 1 *s.* 3 *d.*; and the English Crown piece, 6 *s.* 1 *d.* currency. A Dollar is 4 *s.* sterling.

Through Tickets can be obtained on application at this Office.

Government Emigration Office, Quebec, January 1856.

A. C. Buchanan,
H. M. Chief Emigration Officer for Canada,
Office, Napoleon Wharf.

No. 8.

CANADA.

EXTRACTS from the Notes appended to the Periodical Reports of Arrivals of Passenger Ships at the Ports of *Quebec* and *Montreal*, in the Season of 1855.

RETURN No. 1.—From the 6th to the 19th of May.

NINETEEN hundred and twenty-two emigrants have landed this season, up to the 19th instant, against 38 to the corresponding date in 1854.

This is owing altogether to the favourable passages the vessels have made, the average being 37 days.

They have all landed in good health, and report favourably of the treatment they received on the passage. The majority are farmers and agricultural labourers, chiefly emigrating to join friends, a few have proceeded to the Western States, and a number of the Irish to New York, but the destination of fully four-fifths is Western Canada.

There is at this date but little demand for labour in this section of the province, presenting a remarkable contrast with that of 1854; and in the face of a restricted labour market, added to the high price of all the necessaries of life, it is not to be regretted that there is every appearance of a limited emigration during the present season.

No. 2.—From the 20th to the 26th May.

THE emigrants arrived during the week consists of farmers and labourers, nearly all coming out to join friends. Those on board the "India," from New Ross, and "Royal Adelaide," from Fowey, had a few cases of small-pox, and from the passengers now landed and

and detained a few days in quarantine, all the healthy emigrants have since been discharged, and proceeded to their several destinations. A number of poor families, chiefly females and children, have been assisted to enable them to proceed.

Employment in this neighbourhood and about Montreal is very slack at present, and with but little prospect of improvement. The contractor of the Chats canal, on the Ottawa River has forwarded application for a few hundred men at wages, one dollar per day. A printed notice to this effect has been issued from this office, and distributed among the emigrants.

No. 3.—From the 27th of May to the 9th of June.

The emigrants arrived during the week ending this day have all landed in good health; the great majority have proceeded direct to Western Canada, chiefly to join friends.

The Scotch emigrants from Aberdeen were all respectable agricultural labourers, and a few mechanics, and generally in good circumstances; they all proceeded to Toronto and Hamilton.

Of the Germans, between 60 and 70 emigrated to join their friends in the neighbourhood of Hamilton. 150 proceeded direct to Milwaukie by the new route from Toronto to Collingwood, by the Ontario, Simcoe, and Huron Railway, thence by steam direct. This route promises to be the favourite of emigrants by the St. Lawrence to the far West; and if properly conducted, presents many advantages over the Great Western Road, and is moreover, considerably cheaper.

A copy of the general notice issued by this department for the information of emigrants, with inland routes and rates of passage, is annexed.

No. 5.—From the 16th to the 23d of June.

Two thousand five hundred emigrants arrived at this port during the week ending this date; all landed in good health; the deaths on the passage were only six.

Sixteen females per "Russia," from Sligo, were sent out by the Sligo Union; each adult received 20*s.* sterling on landing here; the greater part proceeded to the United States to their friends.

The Scotch and English emigrants are chiefly agriculturists and mechanics, and with the exception of a few, who were proceeding to join their friends in the United States, will settle in Western Canada. Many of the farmers appeared in comfortable circumstances, and intend to enter at once upon the occupation of land.

The Norwegian emigrants have all proceeded direct to Green Bay and Milwaukie, in Wisconsin.

The Germans, about 60 in number, proceeded to Upper Canada (Waterloo district), the remainder to the United States. These, as well as the Norwegian emigrants, brought a very considerable amount of money with them.

Employment continues very scarce in this section of the province, and emigrants seeking employment find difficulty in obtaining it.

This Return shows a large decrease, 15,277, on our number compared with last season.

No. 6.—From the 24th to 30th of June.

The emigrants arrived during the past week (1,215), have landed in good health. Those by the "George Rogers" from Glasgow, and "Prince Regent" from Hull, were highly-respectable farmers and mechanics; they appear in comfortable circumstances, and all intend settling in Western Canada. They all speak highly of the kindness and attention received during the passage.

The emigrants from Ireland are generally poor, and they all have emigrated to join friends. About one half proceed to the United States—Massachusetts, Vermont, and New York.

Two widows, one with three children, and the other with two, were proceeding to relations in St. Louis, Missouri, and Richmond, Virginia; they stated that their passage was paid by the Union, but landing here totally destitute, they have been forwarded through the province by this office.

The foreign emigrants are all Germans; a few have proceeded to the German settlements in Western Canada, the remainder to the Western States.

The reports from Western Canada received this week are more favourable; work being abundant, at good wages, and labourers scarce.

CANADA.

No. 7.—From the 1st to the 7th of July.

But 736 emigrants have landed here during the past week, all in good health; 273 Norwegians and 343 Germans. They have nearly all proceeded to the Western States.

On board the "Diana," from Bremen, there were a few families sent out by their parish. They received a small sum of money on landing here (10 guilders each), to enable them to proceed up the country. They have proceeded to Hamilton, and, as labourers are required in that quarter, will be likely to do very well.

The old settlers from Sydney, C. B., are all Scotch, who have been settled in that province for a number of years; they have sold their farms, and have proceeded to Toronto and Hamilton, with the intention of settling.

This return shows a large falling off in the emigration of this season, compared with that of 1854, amounting to 18,957 souls.

No. 8.—From the 8th to the 14th of July.

Seventeen hundred and forty-two emigrants landed at this port during the week ending this date, all in good health, notwithstanding their long passage, which averaged 51 days.

The Irish emigrants by the "Devon" from Tralee, "Primrose" from Limerick, and "Favourite" from New Ross, have nearly all come out to join friends or relations, chiefly in Western Canada and the United States. Seven families assisted to emigrate by the "Earl Fitzwilliam" landed here, destitute of means. They were proceeding to friends in Western Canada, where there is no doubt they will eventually do well. The master of the "Devon" was fined for having four passengers over his legal complement. They were entered on his list as cabin passengers, and cleared as such; but on inquiry it was found that they had not occupied the cabin. The ship having, however, been cleared with them as cabin passengers, and the master having agreed to pay the penalty of 2*l.* 10*s.* sterling for each, under the 12th clause of the Passenger Act, I abstained from taking any legal proceedings.

Two hundred and nineteen emigrants have arrived this week from Sydney, C. B; they are chiefly Scotch, who have been settled in that province for these last 20 years, and are now emigrating principally to the Huron tract, attracted by the more genial clime and fertile soil of the west. The foreign emigrants are generally in good circumstances, and have chiefly proceeded to the United States.

The approach of harvest, which promises to be very abundant, has caused considerable increase in the demand for labour in Western Canada, and all who proceed to that quarter can readily obtain employment, with fair wages.

No. 9.—From the 15th to the 21st of July.

The emigrants arrived during the past week, have all landed in good health; they are chiefly foreigners, the greater part of whom proceeded direct to the Western States.

By the "Richard Alsop," from Antwerp, there were 140 persons sent out by the Government of Wirtemburg; they received, in addition to a free passage, four dollars each on landing here. They were principally agricultural labourers, and having no particular destination in view, were forwarded to Hamilton, with recommendations to some of their influential countrymen in the Waterloo district, where they will be certain of meeting with profitable employment during the present approaching harvest.

The English emigrants per "Chance," from Hull, and the Scotch per "Chieftain," from Glasgow, are a fine healthy body of settlers, all agricultural labourers and farmers; their destination was chiefly to the Newcastle, Gore, and London districts, the majority of them appeared to be furnished with funds.

The Irish emigrants per "Hope," from Cork, are all poor, and consist of families coming out to join friends; about one-half went to the United States, the remainder to different sections of the province; 88 persons, equal to 71 adults, had to be assisted, to enable them to proceed from this forward.

The passengers from the wreck of the "Lochmaben Castle," from Liverpool, and lost on the Bird Island on the 4th June, are all included in this return; the last party, 226 in number, having arrived from Pictou by a schooner on the 21st instant.

Those received by the "Sophia M'Kenzie" and "California," reached Grosse Isle on the 12th and 14th of June. They were chiefly women and children, and were detained there and supplied with rations, until the arrival of the rest of their families. These poor people have, I regret to say, lost all their luggage, and which from the information received might nearly all have been saved, if ordinary exertion had been made by the master. The vessel is reported to be still in the position she was when driven on the rocks; and the property and cargo have been pillaged and carried off by the fishing vessels and others. A full report of the evidence collected, and proceedings adopted for the relief of the passengers, will be forwarded in a few days.

No. 11.—From the 1st to the 25th August.

Only 1,386 emigrants have arrived at this port, since the first instant, 1,039 Scotch and 300 Germans.

Three hundred and thirty Scotch by the "Melissa," have been sent out by Sir James Mathewson from his estates in Lewis, they were provided with a free passage to this port, and on landing were served with a week's rations, and all forwarded to their respective destination at Sir James's expense; they speak in the highest and most grateful terms of the liberal and kind treatment they have received.

The Scotch emigrants from Glasgow, are respectable farmers and mechanics, and chiefly emigrating to join their friends and relations. They all proceeded by their vessels direct to Montreal, destination Western Canada. On board the "Charlotte Harrison," there were nine families, 65 persons, who were sent out by Mr. O'Neil, from the island of Canna, they received a free passage to this port; and on landing here, being without means, they were forwarded at the expense of this department to Hamilton for employment. The Germans went principally to the Western States, about 80 or 90 intended remaining in Western Canada.

No. 12.—From 26th of August to the 19th of September

The emigrants arrived during the period embraced in this Return have landed in good health, with the exception of those by the ship "Crown," from Liverpool; 10 deaths occurred on the passage, and 18 sick were sent to hospital at Grosse Isle.

This vessel arrived in a very uncleanly and filthy state, and there appears to have been neither order nor regulation observed during the passage. Captain Izatts and his mate were evidently wholly ignorant of the passenger trade, and from their rough and overbearing conduct, created much ill-will and disagreement among the passengers; numerous complaints were made on their arrival here, touching the ill-treatment they received from the crew; but I regret in a sense of justice that the complainants would not remain a sufficient time in the port to enable me to prosecute. During the period that the passengers were on shore at Grosse Isle, several of their boxes were broken open by some of the crew; I have received depositions from four parties, stating their loss at 19*l.* sterling, and proceedings are now being taken against the master for the recovery of this sum, as also under the Passenger Act for non-fulfilment of contract in refusing to forward a number of his passengers to Montreal as specified by their contract tickets, as well as for an assault on an officer of this department, sent on board to inquire into their complaints. On the decision of the magistrates being given, a special report will be forwarded.

Six women, 1 man, and a child were sent out by the Chatham Union, they received 20*s.* sterling on landing here, which sum had been remitted to this department for their use.

On board the "Dunbrody" from New Ross, there were 53 females from the Gorey Union, each adult received 20*s.* sterling on landing here; a few of them proceeded to relations in Boston and New York, and the remainder were directed to proceed to Upper Canada, where they were certain of meeting with permanent employment.

The emigrants per "Helen," from Montrose, "Albion" and "California," from Glasgow, are all respectable agriculturists and mechanics, generally speaking in comfortable circumstances, and are proceeding to join friends in Western Canada. On board the "St. Patrick," from Liverpool, there were a considerable number of Germans, 130 of whom appear to have been sent out from Mucbach in Wirtemburg; they received 10 guilders each on landing here, to enable them to proceed up to Hamilton.

Among the foreign emigrants who came direct from Hamburg, there were a party of 100 Bohemians, a number of whom have proceeded to settle in Western Canada; the remainder went to the Western States.

Twenty-four females by the "St. Patrick" were sent out from the Drogheda Union, they were forwarded by the ship as far as Montreal. One family, 6 persons from the Chatham Union, and 1 female from the Londonderry Union, and 4 lads from the London Ragged School received 20*s.* sterling on landing, through this office.

The remainder of the emigrants by this and the other vessels are chiefly Irish, mostly poor females coming out to join friends; the greater part of whom have proceeded to Western Canada, and a few to the Eastern Townships.

The demand for labourers or mechanics in Eastern Canada continues to be very limited, and but few or any of the emigrants remain here; whereas throughout Western Canada the demand continues steady, and all those desirous of employment, can procure it without difficulty.

The number of persons who have received pecuniary assistance from this department from the several vessels in this Return, to enable them to join their friends and relations, is equal to 400 adults, principally females and children.

No. 13.—From 20th of September to the 31st of October.

Two thousand five hundred and fifty-three emigrants have arrived at this port during the period embraced in this Return, which may be considered as the close of the emigration by the St. Lawrence route for this season, and shows the large decrease of 31,817 when compared with that of 1854.

The emigrants by these vessels have landed in good health with the exception of those by the " St. Lawrence " from Aberdeen, and the " Pemberton " from Tralee. In the former vessel, 3 deaths (one a cabin passenger, the Rev. Mr. Ogilvie) occurred on the passage; and 39 cases of ship-fever were subsequently admitted into the quarantine hospital, and the master and four seamen are at present under treatment for the same disease in the marine hospital.

By the " Pemberton," although no deaths have occurred during the passage, 23 of the passengers and four seamen were admitted into hospital at Grosse Isle labouring under fever, two of whom have since died.

This vessel, I consider, was unseaworthy, and, therefore, not fit to carry passengers, being leaky in her topsides and decks, so that the passengers were constantly wet, which has been the main cause of the sickness.

In the case of the " St. Lawrence," the disease appeared in a family a few days after sailing, and from the part of the 'tween decks where the family lay, it extended throughout the hold and to the cabin. The captain and passengers appear to be under the impression that the medical officer, whose duty it was to make inspection of the passengers of these vessels before sailing had not been sufficiently strict.

The fever thus introduced has extended through the quarantine hospital, and has been felt most severely by the attendants, two of whom have had very serious attacks, and a young man, a clerk to the suttler at the healthy division, has died of the disease.

The emigrants are chiefly agricultural, and nine-tenths of them have emigrated to join friends. The Scotch and English are generally respectable mechanics and farmers, and some of whom have brought a good deal of capital. The Irish are generally very poor; a large portion of them consist of women and children, emigrating to join their friends in different parts of this province and the United States, these friends having sent assistance to enable them to do so. The passengers per " Pemberton " are nearly wholly of this class; the greater part of whom were nearly penniless on landing here. I found it necessary to grant assistance to 48 males, 96 females, and 131 children, to enable them to leave this port. Nearly the whole went to Western Canada to friends.

On board the "Boreas," there were 93 paupers from the New Ross Union (78 females and 15 children), they received 10 *s.* sterling each, on landing here. It is greatly to be regretted that the guardians of the unions, will persist in continuing to send out their poor at so late a period in the year, and particularly with so small an allowance as 10 *s.*, which considering the actual high prices for all the indispensable requirements of life, is barely sufficient to provide provisions for their journey up the country, and where they would meet with immediate employment, thereby throwing the entire expense of their inland transport on this department, as owing to the late period in the season of their arrival, and the impossibility of procuring suitable employment for them in this section, if allowed to remain, they would most likely become chargeable on the public for support during the winter.

The total number of persons assisted with passages from the several vessels, included in this return, was 711, viz., 402 adults and 309 children, and of whom were 98 English, 58 Scotch, and 555 Irish.

The quarantine closes this day, and the remaining sick, numbering four persons, have been transferred to the marine and emigrant hospital in this city.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Despatches from Lieutenant-Governor the Hon. J. H. T. Manners Sutton.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

No. 2.
Lieut.-Gov. the Hon. J. H. T. Manners Sutton to the Right Hon. Lord John Russell.
19 May 1855.

— No. 2. —

(No. 45.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor the Hon. *J. H. T. Manners Sutton* to the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell*, M.P.

Government House, Fredericton, New Brunswick,
19 May 1855.
(Received 4 June 1855.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship a copy of a letter, addressed to the provincial secretary, from Her Majesty's emigration officer at St. John, with a ship return, reporting the arrival of the ship "Middleton" with passengers.

15 May 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

Enclosure in No. 2.

Encl. in No. 2.

Government Emigration Office,
St. John, 15 May 1855.

Sir,

I HAVE to report the arrival here of the packet ship "Middleton" with passengers, from Liverpool, and enclose a ship return.

When the "Middleton" arrived on the 21st April, 11 of the passengers and one seaman were ill with typhus fever. In consequence, all the passengers were landed at Partridge Island, whence they have come to the city from time to time, clean and healthy.

I am happy to state, that under the good management of Dr. Harding all the sick have become convalescent, and only a few now remain at the island, who will be ready to leave in a few days.

One man named Michael Dawson, aged 28 years, in a state of delirium caused by the fever, jumped over board on the voyage and was drowned. No other death has occurred, either on the voyage or since the vessel arrived.

The passengers by this vessel were nearly all Irish, whose passage money has been paid by friends resident here.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. H. Perley.*

The Honourable the Provincial Secretary.

— No. 3. —

(No. 47.)

No. 3.
Lieut.-Gov. the Hon. J. H. T. Manners Sutton to the Right Hon. Lord John Russell.
29 May 1855.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor the Hon. *J. H. T. Manners Sutton* to the Right Honourable Lord *John Russell*, M.P.

Government House, Fredericton, New Brunswick,
29 May 1855.
(Received 18 June 1855.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to forward your Lordship a copy of a letter, addressed to the provincial secretary, from Her Majesty's emigration officer at St. John, together with a ship return, reporting the arrival of the ship "Eudocia" with passengers.

17 May 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Encl. in No. 3.

Enclosure in No. 3.

Government Emigration Office,
St. John, 17 May 1855.

Sir,

I HAVE to report the arrival yesterday of the packet ship "Eudocia" with passengers, from Liverpool, and enclose a ship return.

These passengers being clean and healthy, there was no detention at the island. On inspection I found them thus classed:—English, 42; Scotch, 7; Irish, 122; Foreigners, 13: total, 184 souls.

The British subjects appeared to be all of the labouring class. The foreigners are Germans, from Wurtemburg, and consist of seven young unmarried women with their six children. I have reason to believe that they were sent to this country at the public expense. They must go to the almshouse in the first instance, until persons can be found to take them and their children.

At this moment I am not aware of any vessel being on the voyage to this port with passengers. There is reason to believe that the immigration of the season will be small, and the supply of domestic and agricultural labour greatly below the demand.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. H. Perley.*

The Hon. S. L. Tilley, &c. &c. &c.

— No. 4. —

No. 4.
Lieut.-Gov. the Hon. J. H. T. Manners Sutton to the Right Hon. Lord John Russell.
25 June 1855.

(No. 54.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor the Hon. *J. H. T. Manners Sutton* to the Right Hon. Lord *John Russell*, M. P.

Government House, Fredericton, New Brunswick,
25 June 1855.

My Lord,

(Received 16 July 1856.)

20 June 1855.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship a copy of a letter, addressed to the provincial secretary, from Her Majesty's emigration officer at St. John, together with a ship return, reporting the arrival of the ship "Liberia" with emigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

Enclosure in No. 4.

Encl. in No. 4.

Government Emigration Office, St. John,
20 June 1855.

Sir,

I HAVE to report the arrival of the packet ship "Liberia," with 207 steerage and seven cabin passengers, and enclose a ship return.

The passengers were in excellent health on arrival, and have since been distributed among friends who expected them. They were thus classed:—English, 111; Scotch, 2; Irish, 94: total, 207.

I have reason to believe that the immigration of this season will be unusually small.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. H. Perley,*
H. M. Emigration Officer.

The Hon. S. L. Tilley,
Provincial Secretary.

— No. 5. —

No. 5.
Lieut.-Gov. the Hon. J. H. T. Manners Sutton to the Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
11 August 1855.

(No. 10.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor the Hon. *J. H. T. Manners Sutton* to the Right Hon. Lord *John Russell*, M. P.

Government House, Fredericton, New Brunswick,
11 August 1855.

My Lord,

(Received 27 August 1855.)

24 July 1855.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship a copy of a letter, addressed to the provincial secretary, from Her Majesty's emigration officer at St. John, together with two ship returns, reporting the arrival of the barque "Mary Ann" and of the brig "Garland," with emigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Enclosure in No. 5.

Government Emigration Office, St. John,
24 July 1855.

Encl. in No 5.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival of the barque "Mary Ann," from Londonderry, with 116 passengers, and brig "Garland," from Cork, with 46 passengers, for both which vessels ship returns are enclosed.

Nos. 4 and 5.

The passengers by both these vessels arrived in excellent health, and very cleanly condition.

I am not aware of any other vessel on the voyage for this port with passengers. A few may be expected during the rest of the season in the Black Ball Line of Liverpool packets, but not in sufficient numbers to bring these vessels under the provisions of the Passengers Act.

The regular immigration of the season is therefore at an end, and has been very much smaller than usual.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. H. Perley,*
H. M. Emigration Officer.

The Hon. S. L. Tilley,
Provincial Secretary.

— No. 6. —

(No. 21.)

No. 6.
Lieut.-Gov. the Hon. J. H. T. Manners Sutton to the Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth, Bart.
16 October 1855.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor the Hon. *J. H. T. Manners Sutton* to the Right Hon. Sir *William Molesworth*, Bart. M. P.

Government House, Fredericton, New Brunswick,
16 October 1855.
(Received 5 November 1855.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward to you the enclosed copy of a letter, addressed to the provincial secretary, from Her Majesty's emigration officer at St. John, together with four ship returns, No. 6, No. 7, No. 8, and No. 9, reporting the arrival of the ships "Imperial," "Middleton," and "Joseph Tarratt," from Liverpool, and also of the barque "Clarence," from Galway, with emigrants.

5 October 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

Enclosure in No. 6.

Government Emigration Office,
St. John, 5 October 1855.

Encl. in No. 6.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival at this port of the packet ships "Imperial," "Middleton," and "Joseph Tarratt," from Liverpool, with passengers, and enclose the usual returns.

The character of these packets is so well established that I need only say the passengers were comfortably accommodated and provided, and arrived in excellent health.

The emigrants by the "Imperial" were classed as follows:—English, 39; Scotch, 2; Irish, 5; foreign, 36: total, 82. In the "Middleton" they were thus classed:—English, 16; Scotch, 97; Irish, 35: total, 148. Those by the "Joseph Tarratt" were classed as follows:—English, 32; Irish, 35; Scotch, 1; foreign, 90: total, 158.

The 90 foreign emigrants were paupers from Wurtemburg, sent out to this province at the public expense, through Rotterdam and Liverpool. Of their number, no less than 87 have been sent to the almshouse, where they must be supported at the public expense until employment can be procured for them. They are in large families, and do not speak a word of English. A notice has been given in the public papers that applications will be received from persons in the country who wish to engage these families.

I have also to report the arrival of the barque "Clarence," from Galway, with 70 passengers, and enclose a ship return. Of these emigrants, 21 have been forwarded to Boston, and 25 to New York, to which places their passage had been paid by the friends that sent for them.

No. 9.

I have further to report the arrival of the ship "Lampedo," from Liverpool, with 38 passengers, and ship "John Barbour," also from Liverpool, with 44 passengers, all in good health; but as these vessels did not come under the provisions of the "Passengers Act," no ship returns are sent.

It is exceedingly gratifying to report the healthy condition of the immigrants that have

NEW BRUNSWICK.

arrived this season; but some measure must be adopted at the next Session of the Legislature to prevent too great an influx of the German paupers, who may otherwise become a heavy burthen upon the province.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. H. Perley*,
H. M. Emigration Officer.

The Honourable the Provincial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c., Fredericton.

(*Note.*—This has been communicated to the several Governments in Germany, with a view to preventing similar occurrences hereafter.)

— No. 7. —

(No. 22.)

No. 7.
Lieut.-Gov. the Hon. J. H. T. Manners Sutton to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere. 27 May 1856.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor the Hon. *J. H. T. Manners Sutton* to the Right Hon. *H. Labouchere*, M. P.

Government House, Fredericton, New Brunswick,
27 May 1856.

Sir,

(Received 24 June 1856.)

19 May 1856.

I HAVE the honour to forward for your information a copy of a letter from Her Majesty's emigration officer at St. John, in which is enclosed a ship return, reporting the arrival of the barque "Clarence" at St. John, from Galway, with emigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

Enclosure in No. 7.

Encl. in No. 7.

Government Emigration Office, St. John,
19 May 1856.

Sir,

I HAVE to report the arrival of the barque "Clarence," from Galway, with 100 passengers, and enclose the usual ship return.

It will be observed that a very large proportion of these passengers proceeded at once to the United States, having taken through tickets before leaving Ireland. The remainder also intend going to the United States, and only wait for their friends to send funds.

The packet ship "John Barbour," from Liverpool, brought 34 passengers, and the packetship "John Duncan" (arrived to-day) brought 25 passengers. Neither of these vessels come under the Passengers Act.

At present I have no passenger lists, and am induced to believe that the immigration of the present season will be unusually small.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. H. Perley*,
H. M. Emigration Officer.

The Hon. S. L. Tilley, Provincial Secretary.

— No. 8. —

No. 8.
Annual Report of the Emigration Agent, New Brunswick.

ANNUAL REPORT of the Emigrant Agent, *New Brunswick.*

To His Excellency the Honourable *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of New Brunswick:

May it please your Excellency:

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith the Annual Abstract of Immigration to New Brunswick during the year 1855.

	Souls.
In 1854	3,618
1855	1,405
Decrease	2,213

1. The whole number of immigrants landed during the year was 1,405 only, being a decrease on the year 1854 of 2,213 souls.

2. There were only three deaths on the voyage and in quarantine during the season, being a little more than one-seventh of one per cent. on the numbers embarked. One of the deaths occurred by drowning; one was that of a child with measles; and the third, that of an aged and infirm person. All the immigrants landed at the port of St. John, chiefly from the excellent packet ships of the

the Liverpool line, on board which passengers are treated with great care and kindness.

3. Fully one-half the immigrants of the season left the province soon after their arrival. Of those that remained, one portion joined friends and relatives who had sent for them; and another portion, chiefly German paupers from Wurtemburg, went at once into the almshouse, where most of them still remain.

4. The depression in the prices of ships and timber still prevails, owing to the continuance of the war, and consequently there is but a limited demand for labour in the ship-yards and saw-mills of the province.

5. During the whole of the past year operations have been suspended on the railways which were previously in course of construction, and hundreds of railway labourers have left the country, as well as many of its inhabitants.

6. In 1847 I had the honour of pointing out to a Committee of the House of Lords various defects in the management of the Crown lands of New Brunswick as regarded settlers. Since that time, I have continually urged upon the Government of this province the necessity of amending the Crown land system. In my last annual report, I brought the subject under the notice of your Excellency, and entreated that some change might be made in a system which I had every reason to believe had deterred, and continued to deter, many persons of the most desirable class from purchasing land and becoming settlers. In January last I brought the subject specially under the notice of the Government, by a letter to the provincial secretary, an extract from which is appended, and to which I beg most respectfully to refer. As the same system still continues in full force, I beg again to reiterate my objections to it, and to express my belief that it is the worst Crown land system in these North American provinces.

7. During the past year, I have had the opportunity of visiting the neighbouring provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, each of which is making greater progress than New Brunswick. As compared with Canada, this province appears to be not merely standing still, but absolutely retrograding.

8. The area of New Brunswick is estimated at 17,677,360 acres, of which, as appears by the census of 1851, only 643,954 acres have been cleared for cultivation, being less than four per cent. of the whole quantity.

The population, now amounting to 200,000 souls or less, is scattered along the watercourses of the country, or along the margin of the sea. The whole interior, and the great bulk of the country, yet remains covered with a dense forest and in a state of primeval wilderness. The communications are kept up by means of the rivers and streams, by roads not of a durable character, by bridges of perishable materials, and by the sea.

9. It is understood the railways proposed to be constructed will follow the existing lines of settlement, and leave the interior of the province in a great measure still untouched. It would seem necessary therefore, in order to sustain the proposed railways, and open up the country, that a great arterial system of roads should be devised, which would render the best land and the varied resources of the province readily accessible. A comprehensive system of great roads, constructed with reference to their permanency, with bridges of a durable nature, and with townships laid out along such roads in proper form, under a judicious system of sale and settlement, would soon render the country attractive, and hold out inducements to emigrants and settlers which are now wanting.

10. I feel satisfied, as well from information which has reached me, as from my own observation, that there has been a considerable stream of emigration from this province during the past year, and I believe, that unless active and vigorous measures are adopted to check it during the coming season, especially by a change in the mode of managing the Crown lands, and by an extensive system of public improvements of various kinds, the stream will continue to flow more largely, and the population of the country will begin to diminish sensibly.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

11. Under present circumstances, it appears to me that the existing population is sufficient for the amount of labour to be performed; and until material changes take place in the business and affairs of the province, I can hold out little or no encouragement to emigrants of the labouring class.

All of which is respectfully submitted by your Excellency's

Very obedient servant,
(signed) *M. H. Perley*,
H. M. Emigration Officer for
New Brunswick.

Government Emigration Office,
St. John, N. B., 8 January 1856.

Extract from Letter to the Hon. the Provincial Secretary, dated Government Emigration Office, 22 January 1855.

Crown Lands.

11. The mode of disposing of Crown lands is such as at present to offer serious obstacles to those who desire to purchase for immediate settlement.

12. The practice heretofore permitted of allowing persons to obtain orders of survey, and under those to select the finest and choicest tracts on the banks of rivers, or in other favourable situations, is exceedingly injurious and greatly to be deprecated.

13. I suggest that lands should be surveyed in townships, or districts, and none sold for settlement save in the surveyed portions. In Canada, the lands in certain surveyed townships only are offered for sale, and no sales are permitted in other townships until a certain proportion of those first offered have been sold. By this arrangement, settlements are formed and extended effectively, roads are well made and kept up, and the evils attendant on small and widely-scattered settlements, without places of worship or schools, and costing large sums of money for bye-roads, are altogether avoided.

14. When Lord Stanley was Colonial Minister he recommended the Legislature of Newfoundland to insert a clause in their Land Bill, declaring that if lands should be once, or oftener than once, exposed to auction and not sold, the Lieutenant-Governor might be afterwards at liberty to dispose of them without competition, at the last upset price at which they had been offered. This plan has been adopted in Canada, and is believed to have worked very advantageously.

15. If a diagram of one or more settlements had been lodged at this office at any time during the last three years, with authority to sell vacant lots previously offered at auction and not sold, I feel assured that much land would have been disposed of to actual settlers, and the settlement of the country greatly promoted.

16. Should this plan be adopted, I suggest that the purchaser should in all cases deposit the purchase-money in a bank, or branch bank, or with the deputy treasurer of the district, to the credit of the receiver-general; the deposit receipt to be handed to the local agent, who shall thereupon grant a location ticket, and forward the receipt to the Crown Land Department, whereupon the grant should issue. This mode would greatly simplify the accounts, and obviate the necessity of taking security from the agents employed. Their commission could be settled at the end of each quarter or yearly.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. H. Perley*,
H. M. Emigration Officer.

Enclosure in No. 8.

ABSTRACT RETURN of IMMIGRATION to *New Brunswick* during the Year ending 31 December 1855.

QUARTERS.	Number of Vessels arrived.	Number of Deaths on Board or in Quarantine.	Number of Births on Board or in Quarantine.	Adults.		Between 14 Years and 1 Year.		Under 1 Year.		TOTALS.		Whole Number of Souls.
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Quarter ending—												
31 March - - -	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30 June - - -	6	2	1	235	174	94	79	12	16	341	269	610
30 September - -	8	1	–	236	254	115	107	9	10	360	371	731
31 December - -	3	–	–	25	21	10	7	1	–	36	28	64
TOTALS - - -	17	3	1	496	449	219	193	22	26	737	668	1,405

RECAPITULATION.

	M.	F.
Adults - - - -	496	449
Between 14 and 1 Year -	219	193
Under 1 Year - - -	22	26
TOTALS - - -	737	668

Whole Number,
One thousand four hundred and five souls.

Government Emigration Office,
St. John, New Brunswick,
8 January 1856.

M. H. Perley,
H. M. Emigration Officer for New Brunswick.

Appendix.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

18 Vict. c. 15. An Act to continue and amend the Act relating to Emigrants.
(Passed 17 April 1855.)

WHEREAS the Act of the 14 Vict. c. 11, intituled, "An Act relating to Emigrants," will shortly expire, and it is desirable to continue and amend the same:— Preamble.

1. Be it therefore enacted, by the Lieutenant-governor, Council, and Assembly, as follows: That from and after the passing of this Act, so much of the first section of the hereinbefore recited Act as defines the amount of rate or head duty on emigrants or passengers arriving in this island, be, and the same is hereby repealed; and instead of the several sums thereby imposed as a rate or head duty on emigrants, the sum of 12*s.* 6*d.*, and no more, save and except as the same is directed by the said section of the said Act to be increased in the event of any vessel being kept in quarantine, shall be collected, levied, and paid in this island, at any time after the passing of this Act. Repeals so much of 1st sect. of 14 Vict. c. 11, as defines the amount of head duty, &c. on emigrants, and in lieu thereof imposes a head duty of 12*s.* 6*d.* at all seasons of the year. Same liable to be increased in certain cases.

2. That all emigrants and passengers, between the ages of 18 months and 12 years, shall be subject only to the payment of the rate or head duty of 6*s.* 3*d.* currency. Emigrants between 18 months and 12 years of age only liable to half duty.

3. The said hereinbefore recited Act, and every clause, matter, and thing therein contained, save and except in so far as the same is hereby repealed and amended, shall be and the same is hereby continued for the space of 10 years from the passing hereof, and from thence to the end of the then next Session of the General Assembly, and no longer. Continues 14 Vict. c. 11, with certain exceptions, for 10 years.

EMIGRATION (NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES).

COPIES or EXTRACTS of Despatches relative to Emigration to the North American Colonies (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 464, of Session 1855).

(*Mr. John Ball.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
6 *February* 1857.

CHINESE EMIGRANTS.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 23 February 1857;—*for*,

"COPIES of any recent COMMUNICATIONS to or from the Foreign Office, Colonial Office, Board of Trade, and any other Department of Her Majesty's Government, on the subject of MORTALITY on board the 'Duke of Portland,' or any other British Ships carrying EMIGRANTS from *China*."

Colonial Office,
21 March 1857.

H. LABOUCHERE.

(*Mr. Cardwell.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
21 *March* 1857.

SCHEDULE.

Number in Series.	From whom	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page.
		1856:		
1.	The Earl of Clarendon to Sir J. Bowring.	18 October (No. 209.)	Enclosing a Letter from Sir E. Buxton, and an Extract from the "Shipping Gazette," on the case of the "Duke of Portland" and "John Calvin," Chinese Emigrant Ships, and calling for information	3
2.	T. F. Elliot, Esq., to the Emigration Commissioners.	25 October	Forwarding a similar Letter from Sir E. Buxton, for report	4
3.	The Emigration Commissioners to T. F. Elliot, Esq.	30 October	Stating that they have received no information, but that they will communicate with the Owners of the Vessels	4
4.	Ditto to H. Merivale, Esq.	6 November	Stating that they can obtain no information respecting the "John Calvin," but enclosing a Letter from the Owners of the "Duke of Portland"	5
5.	The Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Sir J. Bowring.	14 November (No. 130.)	Transmitting the above Correspondence, and requesting to be furnished with information	5
6.	H. Merivale, Esq., to E. Hammond, Esq.	20 November	Enclosing the above Correspondence, and suggesting that Her Majesty's Consul at the Havana may be instructed to furnish any information respecting the mortality on board these Ships	6
		1857:		
7.	The Earl of Shelburne to H. Merivale, Esq.	30 January	Enclosing a Despatch from the Consul-general at the Havana on the subject	6
8.	Ditto, ditto	25 February	Enclosing a further Despatch from the Consul-general at the Havana	7
9.	J. Booth, Esq., to H. Merivale, Esq.	3 February	Transmitting Report of an Inquiry by the Local Marine Board of London into the sickness on board the "Duke of Portland." The Board are unanimously of opinion that no blame attaches to the Master, or to any of the parties connected with the Ship	8
10.	T. H. Farrer, Esq., to H. Merivale, Esq.	5 February	Enclosing further Documents on the subject, and suggesting that the Emigration Officer at Hong Kong should be called upon for an explanation of his proceedings in the matter	12
11.	E. Hammond, Esq., to H. Merivale, Esq.	3 March	Enclosing a Despatch from Sir J. Bowring, with the Emigration Officer's Report on the subject of the mortality on board these ships, and inquiring whether any further steps are to be taken by the Foreign Office in the matter	14
12.	H. Merivale, Esq., to E. Hammond, Esq.	14 March	Enclosing, in reply to preceding Letter, copy of the Despatch addressed to Sir J. Bowring on the subject	18
13.	H. Merivale, Esq., to J. Booth, Esq.	14 March	Transmitting copy of Sir J. Bowring's Despatch to Lord Clarendon, with its Enclosures, and stating that further explanation will be demanded in reference to the space allowed each Passenger on the upper and lower deck under the Chinese Passengers Act	18
14.	Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Sir J. Bowring.	14 March (No. 28.)	Enclosing the Correspondence that has passed with the Board of Trade; stating that a Report has been received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havannah, exonerating from blame the master and parties connected with the Ship, and requesting to be furnished with a Report on the Numbers which both Ships were computed to carry, and the space allowed each Passenger, under the Chinese Passenger Act	19

COPIES of any recent COMMUNICATIONS to or from the Foreign Office, Colonial Office, Board of Trade, and any other Department of Her Majesty's Government, on the subject of MORTALITY on board the "Duke of Portland," or any other British Ships carrying EMIGRANTS from *China*.

— No. 1. —

(No. 209.)

No. 1.
The Earl of Clarendon to Sir J. Bowring.
18 October 1856.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Earl of *Clarendon* to Sir *J. Bowring*.

Sir, Foreign Office, 18 October 1856.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a letter from the President of the Strangers' Home for Asiatics, enclosing an extract from the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette" of the 3d instant, and directing attention to the cases of two vessels, the "Duke of Portland" and "John Calvin," which are therein stated to have arrived at Havana from Hong Kong with cargoes of Coolie labourers, of whom a vast proportion are said to have been lost on the voyage from natural deaths and suicides; and I have to instruct you to cause inquiry to be made into this matter and to report to me the result.

Sir E. Buxton, 14 October.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Clarendon*.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Encl. in No. 1.

My Lord, Cromer, October 14.

I HAVE the honour to enclose for your Lordship's information an extract from the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette," which gives a dreadful account of the consequences that result from the ill-treatment of Asiatics in their voyage from Hong Kong to Cuba.

Sub-Enclosure.

I have the honour to request, as President of the Strangers' Home for Asiatics, that your Lordship will cause an inquiry to be made into the truth of the facts stated, and as to the condition of the Coolies after their arrival in Cuba.

I am, &c.

The Earl of Clarendon. (signed) *Edwd. N. Buxton*, President.

Sub-enclosure in No. 1.

EXTRACT from the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette," Friday, 3 October 1856.

A NEW YORK paper mentions the arrival at Havana of four British ships with cargoes of Coolie labourers. One of the ships, the "Duke of Portland," is reported to have sailed from Hong Kong with 500 of these people on board, out of which number she has landed but 202; 130 are said to have died by natural death upon the voyage, and the residue to have drowned themselves. Another vessel, the "John Calvin," lost 110 by "natural death and suicide," in a passage of 185 days—making a total loss in both ships of 240 Coolies. If the information in our American contemporary be correct, the affair demands the prompt attention of the Foreign Office. The unfortunate survivors were, it appears, at once drafted upon estates or contracts of eight years' service. We take it for granted that these poor people were voluntary emigrants, and that they simply fell victims to brutal treatment on the voyage. But even this aspect of the affair, if correct, is bad enough, for more reasons than one. Great efforts have been made, more especially of late, to procure a supply of labour for our West India colonies. The scarcity of that commodity lies at the root of the West Indian difficulty. It is advisable by every means to encourage immigration from the East, or from any other quarter where it may be legitimately procured.

In a recent article we dwelt at some length upon the efforts which have been made to procure an adequate supply of labour, more especially in British Guiana—on the results which have followed those efforts—and on the interest attending the discussion of the labour question throughout the West India Islands. It is of the last importance that emigration to the West should not get into disrepute with the labouring classes of British India and

China, from which countries large supplies have been heretofore drawn; and nothing is more likely to discourage it than the barbarities which seem to have attended the transport of these recent cargoes to the shores of Cuba. But what if it turns out that they were cargoes of veritable slaves, captured or kidnapped in the Bay of Bengal or the Bay of Hong Kong, instead of in the Bight of Benin or the Mozambique Channel, and conveyed by British vessels to the slave mart of Havana? So valuable is the trade which the Cuba planters are now driving at the expense of our colonies, that they can afford to pay almost fabulous prices for labour, and would risk almost anything to procure it. We take the report we have referred to for as much as it is worth, but we shall watch the progress of the necessary inquiry respecting it with some interest.

— No. 2 —

No. 2.
T. F. Elliot, Esq.
o the Emigration
Commissioners.
25 October 1856.

COPY of LETTER from *T. F. Elliot*, Esq. to the Emigration Commissioners.

Gentlemen, Downing-street, 25 October 1856.

WITH reference to the extract of the "Shipping Gazette" contained in the enclosed copy of a letter from Sir E. Buxton, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Labouchere to request that you will report what information you may have respecting the two ships therein named, as having sailed from Hong Kong with Chinese passengers, viz., the "Duke of Portland" and "John Calvin."

I am, &c.
(signed) *T. F. Elliot.*

8 October 1856.

Encl. in No. 2.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Dear Mr. Labouchere, Cromer 18 October 1856.

I HAVE the honour to enclose an *Extract from the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette," which describes the dreadful results which have arisen from the ill-treatment of coolies in the voyage from Hong Kong to Cuba. On behalf of some persons who feel an interest in the welfare of these poor people, I earnestly request that inquiry may be made at Hong Kong whether these coolies are *bonâ fide* voluntary emigrants, and whether any care is taken that they are well treated during the voyage.

Vide page 3.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Edward N. Buxton*

— No. 3. —

No. 3.
The Emigration
Commissioners
o T. F. Elliot,
Esq.
30 October 1856.

COPY of LETTER from the Emigration Commissioners to *T. F. Elliot*, Esq.

Sir, Emigration Office, 30 October 1856.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 25th instant, enclosing one from Sir E. Buxton, with an extract from the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette," and desiring us to report what information we may have respecting the two ships the "Duke of Portland" and "John Calvin," said therein to have sailed from Hong Kong to Havana with Chinese passengers, and to have incurred a most frightful mortality on the voyage.

2. In reply, we have to state, that we have received no information whatever on the subject of these ships. We have, however, communicated with the owner of the "John Calvin," with whom we are acquainted, and shall endeavour to communicate with the owner of the "Duke of Portland," to ascertain whether they have received any information on the subject.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.

— No. 4. —

No. 4.
The Emigration Commissioners to H. Merivale, Esq. 6 November 1856.

Copy of LETTER from the Emigration Commissioners to *H. Merivale*, Esq.

Sir, Emigration Office, 6 November 1856.

With reference to our Report of 30th ultimo, we have to state that Mr. Duncan Gibb, whom we had supposed to be the owner of the "John Calvin," has informed us that he sold his vessel of that name some time ago, and that the vessel reported to have arrived at Havana with Chinese immigrants, though bearing the same name, is not the same vessel. As there is no vessel of the name in Lloyd's list, we are unable to obtain any further particulars about her.

2. In respect to the "Duke of Portland," the other vessel mentioned in the New York paper, we enclose the copy of a letter which we have received from the owner. It will be seen from this letter that the whole number originally embarked was 330, and that of these, 130, or 2-5ths of the whole, died on the voyage. This is so shocking a mortality that Mr. Labouchere will probably think it right to endeavour to obtain through Her Majesty's Consul at Havana, as well as from the Governor of Hong Kong, some explanation of the causes which led to it.

1 November.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Encl. in No. 4.

Sir, Greenock, 1 November 1856.

In reply to your favour of 29th ultimo, received this morning, we beg to state that the "Duke of Portland" took on board 330 emigrants (not 500 as reported), of these 130 were lost from natural death (chiefly fever we understand) and *suicide*, but we have no particulars as to the number lost by each cause. The remainder, 200 were safely landed at Havana.

From what we know of the master, we feel certain, that no improper harshness would be used towards the passengers. The passage was a very protracted and severe one, besides the severe gales in rounding the Cape of Good Hope for three weeks, three hurricanes were encountered in the Carribean Sea, in as many days. Both master and crew were quite exhausted on their arrival, one or two of the latter died, and the chief mate was off duty two months.

We are, &c.
S. Walcott, Esq., Secretary. (signed *Thomas Hamlin & Co.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 130.)

No. 5.
The Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir J. Bowring. 14 November 1856.

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere* to Governor Sir *John Bowring*.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 November 1856.

I transmit herewith the copy of a letter and enclosure from Sir E. Buxton, together with two reports from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, on the subject of the mortality reported to have occurred among the Chinese passengers on board the "Duke of Portland" and the "John Calvin," on the voyage from Hong Kong to Havana.

Sir E. Buxton, 18 October 1856, page 4.

Emigration Commissioners, 30 October 1856, page 4.

Ditto - ditto, 6 November 1856, page 5.

As the mortality on board these vessels appears to have been of deplorable extent, I request that you will furnish me with any information which may exist respecting them at Hong Kong.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 6. —

No. 6.
H. Merivale, Esq. to E. Hammond, Esq.
20 Nov. 1856.

Copy of LETTER from *H. Merivale*, Esq. to *E. Hammond*, Esq.

Sir, Downing-street, 20 November 1856.

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Labouchere to transmit to you the copy of a letter and enclosure from Sir E. Buxton, together with two Reports from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, on the subject of the mortality reported to have occurred among the Chinese passengers on board the "Duke of Portland" and the "John Calvin," on the voyage from Hong Kong to Havana.

Sir E. Buxton, 18 October 1856, page 4.

Emigration Commissioners, 30 October 1856, page 4.

Ditto, 6 November 1856, page 5.

In laying these papers before the Earl of Clarendon I am to request that you will move his Lordship to instruct Her Majesty's Consul at Havana to furnish any information which he can obtain, respecting the cause of the great mortality on board the vessels in question.

I am, &c.
(signed) *H. Merivale.*

— No. 7. —

No. 7.
The Earl of Shelburne to H. Merivale, Esq.
30 January 1857.

Copy of LETTER from the Earl of *Shelburne* to *H. Merivale*, Esq.

Sir, Foreign Office, 30 January 1857.

With reference to your letter of the 20th November last, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before Mr. Secretary Labouchere the copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-general at the Havana, stating the cause of the great mortality which occurred on board the Chinese emigrant ships "Duke of Portland" and "John Calvin."

No. 69, 26 Nov. 1856.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Shelburne.*

Enclosure in No. 7.

Encl. in No. 7.

(No. 69.)

My Lord, Havana, 26 November 1856.

I have the honour of acknowledging the receipt of Earl Shelburne's despatch, No. 26, of the 22d ultimo, transmitting copy of a letter from the President of the Strangers' Home for Asiatics, enclosing an extract from the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette" of the 3d of October, directing attention to the cases of two vessels, the "Duke of Portland" and "John Calvin," which arrived here from Hong Kong with Chinese labourers, of whom a vast proportion were lost on the voyage, from natural deaths and suicides, and instructing me to cause inquiry to be made into the matter, and report the result to your Lordship.

I have to state, that the great mortality which took place on board the two vessels alluded to, did not escape my observation at the time, and I inquired most minutely respecting the causes which might have led to such fatal results.

I am enabled to report to your Lordship, that there was no blame whatever attached to the masters of either vessel, than whom it would perhaps be very difficult to find more humane or competent persons in our mercantile marine; both ships had experienced surgeons, and ample accommodation, sufficiently well ventilated for the number of passengers, which they carried.

There were few suicides; most of the attempts having been frustrated; but a fatal disease soon manifested itself, the coolies probably predisposed to infection, owing to their not having been well-conditioned when they were put on board. The disease, it appears, spread, became epidemic, and could not be got rid of even after they had taken in other water at St. Helena, so that of those on board the "John Calvin," 61 were landed sick, of whom 11 died here in the hospital, and two also of 27 who landed, and were sent to the hospital, from on board the "Duke of Portland." After that ship's arrival here, there was no want of good and wholesome provisions, and both ships had a plentiful supply of water taken in at Hong Kong; but this element, it is supposed, was not of a quality suitable for so long a voyage, and to that is attributed the sickness, and, consequently, unusually great mortality which occurred.

I beg leave to refer your Lordship to the medical report, which I have the honour of enclosing herewith. And with the greatest respect,

I have, &c.
(signed) *Jos. T. Crawford,*
Consul-General, Cuba.

The Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 7.

TRANSLATION REPORT.

THE diseases which caused the mortality of 130 colonists were various; it appears that some of them committed suicide, by throwing themselves into the sea; which circumstance has been attributed to the extravagant use of opium. The doctor told me that some had died from the results of the Shanghai fever, with which I am not acquainted, nor could he describe it to me; others from affections of the liver, others from scurvy, &c., so that no affection of a contagious nature prevailed amongst these people. Amongst the 27 sick who came to the infirmaries of the depôt on the 7th of September, there were various affections, but almost all were endemical, some with scurvy, others with affections of the liver, and one only with diarrhœa; two only died, the rest recovered quickly. The causes of this sickness have been principally owing to the quality of the water, and, probably, ought to be added, to the use of opium smoked to excess. The English frigate "John Calvin," Captain Thornhill, was still more unfortunate; this vessel, of sufficient capacity for more than 350 colonists, took on board only 297, she was provided with everything that could be wished for the good accommodation of the passengers; she left Hong Kong about the middle of March, and arrived at the Havana on the 2d of September; she lost during the voyage and the days of observation, in the quarantine, 122 colonists.

On the 9th day of September 61 sick entered the depôt; the report which I had from the doctor on board was, that all those who had died had been affected with the same malady as that which the 61 who came to the infirmaries of the depôt laboured under; it was easy for me to know that all had been affected, firstly with edema and then consecutively with asthenic dropsy, in fact all the 61 were in that state, and to this malady other affections were added, which complicated it, and superinduced a more speedy death.

Perchance it may be the first instance of this malady having appeared in an epidemic form; this affection is most frequently the result of organic injuries, but here everything proves that the organic injuries have been the consequence of the anasarsis, caused by a viciation of the blood which presented itself first in an endemical state, to which succeeded an edemis, and presently anasarsis; the scurvy should naturally present itself as a consequence of the affections originated at sea.

All the sick, as well as the healthy colonists, complained of the bad quality of the water, the former attributed to it their maladies; it is so easy to understand how this affection might have taken its origin from the imbibing of bad water, but we ought not neglect to observe, that others who drunk it were not sick; perhaps it ought to be added that the use of opium and little exercise, the temperature, &c., might have predisposed those who fell sick to be unfavourably prejudiced.

The anasarsis is considered by medical men to be one of the affections which in most cases causes death, but it is because the cases which are observed in practice are generally affections proceeding from an organic injury, here, on the contrary, the organic injuries, or, better said, the functional injuries, have been consequent on the disorganization of the hematous, and innervation, and it is indisputable that when the organic injuries were observable the malady resisted cure, as the principal elements of life, the hematous and inervation were attached in such a manner as to destroy the vital energies. Amongst the dead bodies which I have examined I have found the liver, the brain, and the lungs, &c. affected, but I have in all cases found that it was the effect of the serous infiltration of the celular intermuscular, submucus and subserous membranes; so that the organ did not act, not owing to its being affected, but because the tumefaction which encompassed it, took from it the space in which to enlarge its movements. There was then *un arret de functions*, and not an organ injury. Of the 61 sick I lost only 11, the rest recovered, but all commenced by being paralyzed in the limbs; when they were getting better, they commenced by being able to move their arms, but they continued paralyzed in their lower extremities for a considerable time. I have used drastic purges, I have continued them even in a state of perapluis, which I considered as approaching convalescence, but at the same time I made use of nox vomica and iron together, and, in some cases, electro-magnetic currents appeared to have a favourable effect.

(signed) *A. Dupierris.*

Habana, 30 September 1856.

— No. 8. —

No. 8.

The Earl of Shelburne to H. Merivale, Esq. 25 February 1857.

COPY of LETTER from the Earl of *Shelburne* to *H. Merivale*, Esq.

Sir, Foreign Office, 25 February 1857.

WITH reference to my letter* of the 30th ultimo, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before Mr. Secretary Labouchere, copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, confirming his former opinion, that no blame is to be attached to the masters of the "Duke of Portland" and "John Calvin," on account of the mortality which occurred on board those vessels.

*Page 6.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Shelburne.*

Encl. in No. 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

(No. 73.)

My Lord, Havana, 26 December 1856.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of the Earl of Shelburne's despatch (No. 28) of the 28th ultimo, transmitting to me a copy of a letter and its enclosure from Sir Edward Buxton, and also copies of two reports from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, which your Lordship had received through the Colonial Department, on the subject of the mortality reported to have occurred among the Chinese passengers on board the "Duke of Portland" and the "John Calvin," on their voyage from Hong Kong to Havana.

* Page 6.

In my No. 69,* dated the 26th ultimo, I did myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship upon this subject, in obedience to the instruction which I received in the Earl of Shelburne's despatch (No. 26), of the 22d of October, and with reference to the medical report of Dr. Dupierris, which I transmitted along with the despatch. I have not since been able to obtain any further information, consequently have no observations to add, and only state, that no blame can be imputed to the masters, or to the parties interested, the colonists having been treated with every care and humanity, and provided for as they ought to have been, on board of both vessels.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. T. Crawford,*
Consul-General in Cuba.

The Earl of Clarendon,
&c. &c. &c.

—No. 9.—

No. 9.
J. Booth, Esq. to H. Merivale, Esq.
3 February 1857.

COPY of LETTER from *J. Booth*, Esq. to *H. Merivale*, Esq.

Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,
Sir, Whitehall, 3 February 1857.

I AM directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, to request that you will call the attention of Mr. Secretary Labouchere to the case of the mortality among Chinese emigrants on board the ship "Duke of Portland," on her voyage from Hong Kong to the Havannah, in the year 1856.

My Lords' attention was called to this case by proceedings in one of the police courts, reported in the "Times" of the 5th December. They immediately requested the Local Marine Board of London to inquire into the case. That Board has made its report, and a copy of the report, and of the evidence taken, is enclosed for Mr. Labouchere's information. The evidence given before the Board is confirmed by the entries in the official log, which has been examined at this office.

The report and evidence contain a full statement of all that happened during the voyage. They show that of 332 emigrants shipped, no less than 128 died on the passage, most, as it appears, from fever, and some by suicide. They give an account of the first appearance of discontent and mutinous conduct on the part of the emigrants in the port of Hong Kong, and they show the steps taken by the captain in the course of the voyage. My Lords have, however, been anxious to obtain further information upon one or two points, to which the attention of the Local Marine Board does not appear to have been specially directed.

These points are:—

1. By what persons, and on whose behalf the ship was chartered for the voyage in question.
2. How it happened that the ship left Hong Kong on such a voyage so late in the season.
3. The conduct of the emigration officer at Hong Kong, whose duty it was to enforce the provisions of the Chinese Passenger Act.

On these points Captain Seymour, who has shown willingness throughout to give a full account of the matter, will no doubt be able to give information. He is at present away from London, but if he returns, or if my Lords can obtain the information from other quarters, they will forward it for Mr. Labouchere's information.

In the meantime they request that you will call his special attention to the following points:—

1. This

1. This is a case in which the ship took in her emigrants at, and sailed from Hong Kong, and that there ought, therefore, to have been no difficulty whatever in applying strictly the provisions of the Chinese Passenger Act, 1855.

2. That if those provisions and the regulations adopted under them concerning room, ventilation, &c., were complied with, there is good reason for thinking that the regulations are wholly insufficient to effect the desired object at any rate for such a voyage in such latitudes, and commenced at such a time of year as that of the "Duke of Portland."

3. Mr. Labouchere will observe, that the first appearance of discontent or mutinous conduct on the part of the emigrants appears to have arisen from the belief on the part of those last shipped, that they had been cheated by those who had engaged them. It is therefore very important to learn whether the emigration officer did, according to the terms of the certificate given in Schedule (B.) of the Chinese Passenger Act, inspect the contracts between the emigrants and their intended employers, and satisfy himself that they were reasonable, and that no fraud was practised in collecting the emigrants.

Under the above circumstances my Lords would suggest for Mr. Labouchere's consideration, that instructions should be given to the Governor of Hong Kong to make the strictest inquiries concerning the circumstances under which the "Duke of Portland" left Hong Kong, and concerning the conduct of the emigration officer with respect to that vessel.

It will, as it appears to my Lords, be also necessary to have it considered whether the regulations already adopted by the authorities at Hong Kong under the Chinese Passenger Act, are sufficient for the purpose, or whether further and more stringent regulations are necessary.

I am to add, that my Lords have communicated the facts of this case to the Foreign Office.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James Booth.*

Encl. in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Local Marine Board, 71, Cornhill,
20 January 1857.

Sir,

In compliance with your letter of 7th instant, this Board has caused inquiry to be made into the extraordinary mortality on board the ship "Duke of Portland," on a voyage from China to the Havannah with emigrants.

Every facility has been afforded by the owner and captain of the ship.

This Board are unanimously of opinion that no blame attaches to them, or any one connected with the ship; that Captain Seymour's conduct to the emigrants appears to have been kind and attentive, and that every possible precaution was used by him to decrease the mortality. Dr. Ludgatt appears also to have exerted himself for the same purpose.

The details of this unfortunate voyage will be found in full in the copy of Captain Seymour's letter to the owner, Mr. Hamlin, and the copy of the proceedings at the investigation, both sent herewith.

It appears to this Board that the mortality was greatly aggravated by the great heat and unusual length of the passage (150 days) caused by the sailing of the ship in an improper season; she sailed full one month later than she ought to have done, to enable her to get down the China Seas.

I am, &c.
(signed) *D. Dunbar,*
Chairman.

T. H. Farrer, Esq.,
Marine Department, Whitehall.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 9.

Local Marine Board, 71, Cornhill,
8 January 1857.

INVESTIGATION into circumstances attending the mortality of Chinese emigrants, whilst on board the ship "Duke of Portland," on her passage from Hong Kong to the Havana.

Present,—Messrs. Dunbar, Phillips, Green, Anderson, Ingham, and Captain Denny; Duncan Dunbar, Esq., in the Chair.

Captain *G. N. Seymour*, master, and Mr. *Thomas Hamlin*, owner of the "Duke of Portland," attended before the Board.

The letter of the 7th instant from the Board of Trade, calling the attention of this Board to a statement in the "Shipping Gazette" of the 6th instant concerning the mortality was then read.

Captain *Seymour* stated—"We left Hong Kong with 332 Chinese coolies, we had been measured for 334. We had a surgeon who had been all the voyage from London to New Zealand, and thence to China. He had a diploma. He had been approved by Captain Lane, Government Agent. We took out the Bishop of New Zealand and other passengers. We were to be paid a lump sum per head for all the Chinese coolies landed alive at the Havana. We received nothing for those who died. The coolies appeared in good health when shipped; that was the general opinion on our leaving China. There were ample medicines put on board by the owner. We had water from China in excess."

Captain Seymour then read a letter which he had addressed to the owner; it was dated "Havana, 10th September 1856," in which he states, that the emigrants were all on board on the 31st March 1856. "On 2d April, when hove short and ready for sailing, the Chinese crowded aft, took belaying pins from the rails and armed themselves with fire-wood, yelling and shouting in a fearful manner, throwing every thing moveable overboard. He then had an interview with the Stipendiary Magistrate, at the Supreme Court, who came on board with a police force; the coolies laughed at them, and at length they were driven below at the point of the bayonet. Then planted my two guns inside the cuddy door, loaded them with grape and canister, had the carronades loaded and placed at the poop fife rail, gave the men a cutlass each; Mr. May (magistrate) was then on board. He left a serjeant and five policemen on board, for sentries during the night. At daylight I was out of the Roads. When at sea they refused to cook; the third day I had the first suicide, and on an average I had three suicides daily between Hong Kong and until I passed the Straits of Sunda.

"On the morning of the 15th I discovered a plan among the Chinese to take the ship: the same afternoon they carried their plan out, but as I was quite prepared for them, a few well-directed blows from the flat of a cutlass prevented the rush, and J. Williams jumped overboard and saved the man who had been thrown from the forecastle; after the failure of the attempt they became quieter, but I had usually 12 to 18 in irons, for riotousbehaviour or attempted suicide.

"On evening of 28th an attempt was made to rescue one of their ringleaders who I had put in irons; one of them threw a large bone at me when trying to pacify them: I then thought it time to clear the decks, and in the struggle one was wounded in the side. I called at the Cocoa Islands in hopes of getting vegetables, fresh meat, and fish for the invalids, but was much disappointed with the result of my visit."
(Above from the letter.)

Captain Seymour then stated—"We lost 128 Chinese before arriving at the Havana, chiefly from congestive fever; it is like the Hong Kong fever. We lost one of the crew. I think the coolies brought the seeds of the disease on board with them. When they would not eat, I have tried to force food down their throats. We were 150 days on our passage from China to the Havana. We remained three days at St. Helena. We had vegetables from St. Helena to within a few days of our arrival at the Havana. All the opium for the Chinese was consumed before we arrived at St. Helena. The Chinese mutinied before we sailed from Hong Kong, on account of their wanting more money. I believe one-third of them were kidnapped. They had spent the money they had before leaving China. The surgeon was kind to them; I was with them much more than the surgeon was; he saw them always twice a day. The Chinese were shipped under the direction of the chief magistrate; I have a document from him, stating that all required for them was shipped. The entries regarding the assistance rendered by the magistrate at Hong Kong, were made a day or two after in the official log. The opium required by law was put on board in China, and I got more at St. Helena. I gave the doctor full authority at St. Helena to get all the opium and medicines he required."

(Entries in the official log regarding the disturbance previous to sailing, the medical treatment, and the plan for giving more air to the emigrants, were then read.)

Captain

Captain Seymour then stated,—"The ship is 533 tons. The emigrants had the whole of the lower deck, excepting the cuddy. We could see the difference between those who died from congestive fever, and those who suffered from the want of opium. In April the thermometer in my cabin ranged from 82° to 90°. The season of the year was bad for them. The ship had scuttles. She has carried emigrants before. I was 100 days to St. Helena. The loss of the monsoon in the China Sea was caused by our detention in China. They could not get the people ready for shipping. We sailed from Hong Kong on the 2d April. Only one man was injured in the disturbance; he was wounded. The 'John Calvin' sailed about three weeks before me, and arrived after me. The scurvy was frightful on board that ship; we had none. I was told by the consul at the Havana, that I was the first ship arrived there without scurvy on board. I was without a chief mate for two months coming home; he was below, sick, and off the Cape too, in bad weather."

The Interpreter, a Chinese, who came from China in the ship, was examined; he stated, "The first time come on board ship, Chinamen complain; had not money, wanted captain to pay them."

Captain Seymour here stated, "They agree to serve for so long a period. They got food, clothing, and everything. They complained they had one dollar given to them instead of eight."

The Interpreter then stated:—"Some sick jump overboard. I keep men always to look after sick. Don't know why that man jump overboard. They had food prepared regularly. They wanted to get possession of the ship; said they would never get back to China; they wanted to set her on fire. Some men say, not tell me. They threatened to kill me and the captain. I believe the men only got one dollar. One 'Portugal' take money from them going down. The mandarin told them they would be paid more when they got on board. One day only at sea, in a gale of wind, they only had biscuits; could not cook. The doctor saw them two or three times a day."

Captain Seymour also stated:—"I never laid down in my bed without a cutlass at my belt. I believe the men all received their eight dollars, because there had been a previous row about it, in the 'John Calvin.' We had 25 Chinese, from Hong Kong; all the others were from Macao."

The inquiry was then adjourned until the 15th instant, for the purpose of obtaining the evidence of the surgeon.

Local Marine Board, 71, Cornhill,
15 January 1857.

Present, Messrs. Dunbar, Green, Ingham, and Anderson, and Captains Denny and Hunter.

Duncan Dunbar, Esq. in the Chair.

The Board resumed the investigation into the circumstances attending the mortality of Chinese emigrants, whilst on board the ship "Duke of Portland," adjourned from the 8th instant.

Captain *G. N. Seymour*, the master, and Mr. *Thomas Hamlin*, the owner, attended before the Board.

Mr. *David Ludgat*, surgeon of the "Duke of Portland," was then called in; he stated: "A low typhoid fever generally prevailing among the low class of Chinese, was brought on board by them when shipped at Hong Kong. Sufficient food was provided for the coolies. The sickness was attributed to improper food used by themselves, such as onions and pickles. A number of suicides took place, but many more would have taken place, had not the boat been kept in readiness to pick those up who jumped overboard. The Chinese were kindly treated all the time, both as to diet and other necessaries of life, and were supplied with the usual quantity of opium. I have not seen any of the cases on shore, but had the symptoms of the peculiar fever which the Chinese are subject to, described to me by the medical officer of the hospital. The symptoms on board were the same as those described to me by the medical officer. I prescribed the same medicines and treatment as adopted in the hospital. The fever appeared among the coolies after they had been three days on board. Within a week after sailing as many as sixty cases had appeared. All the symptoms on board were the same as those described by Dr. Barton, the hospital surgeon. The berthing was in every way well fitted. The habits of the Chinese were very filthy. Every means was used to correct their habits, by taking every precaution to keep them as clean as possible. The length of the voyage aggravated the symptoms, and increased the number. The number of deaths were nearly the same all the voyage, but increased in malignity. The deaths after our arrival at Havana were much the same. No expedient to ensure carrying coolies such a long voyage can be put in force but to lessen the numbers. This disease would be infectious among persons of low habits, but with those more robust not so.

The coolies had food so regular on board that they had no occasion to complain. The boatswain was the only one of the crew that died. The mate and steward were seized with the disease, but they recovered; they were occupied more among the Chinese than others of the crew; I am disposed to think that the disease is infectious. When the disinfecting matter was all used, the 'tween-decks were fumigated with boiling pitch daily, when possible to do it. The coolies died from debility and affection of the liver and lungs, and exhaustion arising from the seeds of the disease. The chief mate was treated for the same disease previous to sailing from Hong Kong. As many of the coolies as could be allowed with safety were ordered on deck daily. Captain Seymour's conduct was attentive at all times to the Chinese in satisfying their wants and attending to their cleanliness. Those of the Chinese who attempted to commit suicide, and were picked up, generally made a second attempt; they were then more carefully looked after."

— No. 10. —

No. 10.
T. H. Farrer, Esq.
to H. Merivale, Esq.
5 February 1857.

COPY of LETTER from *T. H. Farrer*, Esq. to *H. Merivale*, Esq.

Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,
Whitehall, 5 February 1857.

Sir,

REFERRING to Mr. Booth's letter* of the 3d instant, on the subject of the mortality on board the ship "Duke of Portland," I am directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade to enclose, for Mr. Labouchere's information, the following documents.

* Page 8.

No. 1. Copy of questions addressed to the master of the "Duke of Portland," and of his replies.

No. 2. Copy of a statement made by John Hagan, late chief officer of the "Duke of Portland;"

No. 3. Copy of the Emigration Officer's Certificate.

No. 4. Copy of the List of the Male Emigrants who embarked in the "Duke of Portland;" (Being very voluminous, is not printed.)

No. 5. Copy of a document in Spanish annexed to the certificate, with its indorsements. On the back of this document are Chinese characters, apparently a translation. (Not printed.)

The statement made by Hagan, who my Lords have reason to believe to be a respectable and trustworthy man, was made in the presence of certain officers of this department, and subsequently taken down in writing.

Mr. Labouchere will observe that, if this statement be true, a large number of the emigrants were sick at the time the emigration officer granted his certificate; that he did not see them individually; and that he does not appear to have had that personal communication with each of the emigrants which would seem to be necessary, in order to ascertain that the agreements with them were properly made and understood.

My Lords wish it to be understood, that they are not considering a charge as proved, which the emigration officer has no means of rebutting, but they think it right to call Mr. Labouchere's attention to the statements made, in order that full inquiry may be made at Hong Kong.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. H. Farrer.*

Encl. in No. 10.

Enclosures in No. 10.

No. 1.

QUERIES asked of the Captain of the "Duke of Portland."

30 January 1857.

1. How, and by whose orders did the ship happen to be engaged in the carrying of Chinese emigrants?
2. Who were the charterers of the ship on the voyage from China to the Havanna; and on whose account were the emigrants shipped?
3. If done through an agent in China, what was the name and address of the agent?
4. How did it happen that with such a voyage in view the ship sailed from Hong Kong with such a cargo so late in the season?

5. Was

5. Was the ship duly surveyed by an emigration officer at Hong Kong; if so, what was his name; and when was the survey commenced, and when completed?

6. Can the captain furnish a copy of any certificate or document given by the emigration officer?

The Registrar of Seamen. (signed) *T. H. Farrer.*

Replies of Master of "Duke of Portland" to the foregoing Queries.

1. From various contingencies, arising in the earlier part of the voyage, the ship was thrown out of the tea and silk carrying trade, in which it was first purposed to employ her, and it was optional with me to employ her as I considered prudent.

2. The charterer was a Don A. R. Ferran, of Havana, but at that time residing at Macao, and the emigrants were shipped on his account.

3. Messrs. Lyall Still, Hong Kong, were agents for A. R. Ferran, and through them the charter was negociated.

4. The ship preceding the "Duke of Portland" experienced great difficulty in obtaining her emigration papers; and the charterers could not pay that attention in collecting the emigrants necessary in order to despatch the ship at an earlier date.

5. The ship was surveyed and measured by Captain Watkins, the harbour-master at Hong Kong, in February 1856, afterwards by the emigration officer, whose name will be found attached to the papers left at the registry office for copying on Saturday.

6. Yes, and left at the registry office on Saturday.

(signed) *Geo. F. Seymour.*

No. 2.

John Hagan (certificate of competency, 11,628) joined the "Duke of Portland" in London, as second mate, in March 1855, bound to New Zealand with emigrants, thence to Shanghai and Hong Kong, where the ship was chartered to convey Chinese emigrants to Havana.

Marginal notes by Captain Seymour.

Before receiving the emigrants at Hong Kong, the ship was surveyed and measured by the Emigration Officer; a deck-house was built, and other preparations made for their reception. In February 1856, 25 came on board from the shore; they had a small chest each, and a change of clothing. About a week after, 225 came alongside in a steam-vessel from Macao; they had bags with them, but no chests; afterwards four or five escaped to the shore. The steamer returned with another batch of 86,* about a week after.

Measured by harbour master, who inspected the ship twice.

These men were on board three or four days before we sailed, and about the second day,† the Emigration Officer came on board, and all the emigrants that were able assembled on the deck. The Emigration Officer addressed them in the Chinese language, not individually, but generally.

The Captain ordered me to go below and report how many were too ill to come upon deck. I found 38 were in their berths, and did not make their appearance on deck. Before this one of them had died, and his body had been sent on shore. This was the only time the Emigration Officer spoke to the men.

When we were about getting under weigh, the emigrants began to mutiny; the Captain was on shore at the time, but finding they were likely to be troublesome, we lowered the fore topsail. When the master came on board and found how matters stood, he returned again to the shore, and went to the Agents, and Messrs. Lyell and Co.,‡ the charterers. Some person from their office came on board, with eight or ten policemen, armed, and the emigrants were all sent to their berths. Three policemen remained on board all night. I understood from the interpreter, that the cause of the disturbance arose from the promised amount of advance in money not having been paid. On 3rd of March we sailed, and fortified the after-part of the ship, to keep the emigrants under. Before we had been many days at sea, the deaths became very frequent, and the sickness increased very much. The sickness arose from the loss of their opium, and some were so disposed when they came on board.§ Some of the emigrants had a little opium with them; the doctor used all he had. Several times during our passage down the China Seas the emigrants were very troublesome; some slipped overboard during the night,‖ and were not missed till the next morning; those that went overboard during the day were all saved, excepting one man. By the time we arrived at St. Helena, more than 100 had perished. We remained there three days, took in fresh provisions, water, vegetables, and the medicine chest was, I believe, replenished; it was not short of anything before, as far as I know. Upwards of 30 died between St. Helena¶ and Havana; but the remainder appeared in a better state of health, and very few committed suicide.** When we arrived at Havannah, we laid eight days in quarantine; there were two deaths during this period, and the bodies were buried on shore. We put the emigrants on board the receiving ship, and I do not know what became of them afterwards. The charterer, I understood, was a Spaniard at Havannah, his agents being Messrs. Lyall, Still, and Co., of Hong Kong.

* These 86 were in an exhausted state from sea sickness, having experienced heavy weather on the passage from Macao.

† I believe the day after, and I believe he was on board twice, if not more.

These were suffering from the effects of sea sickness principally.

‡ No person came from Lyell Still's office on this occasion. They refused to assist or interfere in any way.
I do not recollect the number, but more than that stated.
3d April.

For the deaths, &c. the O. F. L. is an authority. I do not recollect.

§ Incorrect, for I had option of refusing any that myself or surgeon considered unhealthy or unfit for the voyage, and I know of but one man that I could have objected to. Many had skin diseases.

‖ Several were picked up during the night.

¶ Fewer deaths and a larger number of suicides, and those of the most determined character.

** I cannot state numbers, having no papers here to refer to.

We remained at Havannah about 14 days, and then went to St. Cruz for mahogany and cedar for London. At Havannah the chief mate left, and I was appointed in his stead.

There was plenty of water, rice, and meat; the emigrants were not on short allowance during the voyage; provisions were served out to the ten cooks twice per day, and they

divided it among the men. The doctor went round twice every day to visit the sick men and of a night, when called upon. There was a great stench in the ship,* owing to the manner in which the Chinese used the water closet, one of which was within five feet of the ship's galley; they were not built in a proper manner† for the way in which they use them. The urine was not carried off, but run along the deck. The men slept on mats, but were very lousy; no soap was allowed by the ship,‡ and consequently they were very filthy, and were covered with vermin. Dead bodies were sewed up in rice bags and thrown overboard.

One of the crew died the day after we left St. Helena,§ and some of the crew were sick in the China Seas.‖

(signed) *John Hagan*,
Late Chief Officer.

February 4th, 1857.

Signed in presence of Everard Home Coleman.

(signed) *J. H. Brown*,
Registrar General of Seamen.

At first under my own, afterwards under the superintendence of the interpreter and boatswain.

*This I consider incorrect.

† Query: Could Mr. Hagan suggest an improvement? I could not.

‡Soap and fresh water was issued to the sick, and soap was obtained at St. Helena for their use.

§Taken ill the day after sailing; died about ten days after sailing.

‖ The greater number suffering from venereal or its effects.

No. 3.

EMIGRATION OFFICERS' CERTIFICATE.

I HEREBY authorize the Chinese passenger ship, "Duke of Portland," to proceed to sea for the port of Havana, in Cuba; and I certify that the said ship can legally carry 334 adults, and that there are on board 334 passengers, making in all 334 adults, viz., 334 men, no women, no male children, and no female children, such children being between the ages of one and twelve years; that the space set apart and to be kept clear for the use of such emigrants is as follows: On the upper deck, 1,140$\frac{8}{12}$ superficial feet, being fore poop cabins, cabin before poop, and deck-house; and in the between decks 2,870$\frac{5}{12}$ superficial feet, being the whole deck; that the ship is properly manned and fitted; and that the means of ventilating the part of the between decks appropriated to passengers are as follows: scuttles, air funnels and windsails; that the ship is furnished with a proper quantity of good provisions, fuel, and water, more than sufficient for the passage to St. Helena, for 168 days' issues to the passengers, according to the annexed dietary scale; and with a proper quantity of medicines, instruments, and medical comforts, according to the annexed scale of medical necessaries; that I have inspected the contracts between the emigrants and their intended employers (the terms of which are annexed to this certificate), and consider them reasonable; that no fraud appears to have been practised in collecting the emigrants; and that there are on board a surgeon and interpreter, approved by me, and designated respectively David Sudgate and Sungto.

The master of the ship is to put into St. Helena for water and fresh vegetables.

Passage from Hong Kong to St. Helena estimated at 90 days; from St. Helena to Havana at 79 days.

(signed) *C. B. Hillier*,
Emigration Officer.

Dated at Hong Kong this 1st day of April 1856.

Annexed to this certificate are:

1. Passenger List, as supplied by master.
2. Copy of the Contract for Labour.
3. Schedule A of Chinese Passenger Act.

— No. 11. —

No. 11.
E. Hammond, Esq. to H. Merivale, Esq.
3 March 1857.
* Pages 6 and 7.

COPY of LETTER from *E. Hammond*, Esq. to *H. Merivale*, Esq.

Sir, Foreign Office, 3 March 1857.

WITH reference to Lord Shelburne's letters* of the 30th of January last and the 25th ultimo, inclosing copies of Reports from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, relative to the mortality on board the British ships, "Duke of Portland" and "John Calvin," which conveyed Chinese emigrants from Hong Kong to the Havana, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary in China, inclosing copies of Reports from the Emigration Officers' Department at Hong Kong, relative to the above-mentioned vessels; and I am to request that, in laying the enclosed papers before Mr. Secretary Labouchere, you will move him to inform Lord Clarendon, whether he would wish his Lordship to take any further steps either with Sir John Bowring, or with the Board of Trade.

I am, &c.
(signed) *E. Hammond.*

Sir J. Bowring's. No. 5. 3 January 1857.

Enclosure in No. 11.

(No. 5.)

Superintendency of Trade, Hong Kong,
1 January 1857.

My Lord,

In reply to your Lordship's despatch,* No. 209, dated 18th October last, directing me to make inquiry into the cases of "John Calvin," and "Duke of Portland," British ships which conveyed Chinese emigrants from this colony to the Havana, a great mortality having taken place during the voyage, I have now to forward to your Lordship the information I have obtained from the Emigation Officer's Department through the Colonial Secretary.

* Page 3.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Bowring.*

The Earl of Clarendon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 11.

Emigration Office, Victoria, Hong Kong,
29 December 1856.

Sir,

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 26th instant, No. 975, transmitting a letter from the Superintendency of Trade, and also enclosing a copy of a communication from the President of the Strangers' Home for Asiatics in England, with reference to the mortality which is said to have occurred on board the emigrant ships "John Calvin" and "Duke of Portland," which vessels were cleared out from this port bound to Havana, by my predecessor (Mr. Hillier), on the 12th of March and 1st April last, respectively, and requesting me to furnish you with the fullest particulars in my power respecting them.

2. On reference to the records of my predecessor, I find that the ship "John Calvin" was authorised to carry 81 passengers only, whereas, by the slip of newspaper attached to Sir E. N. Buxton's letter to the Earl of Clarendon above mentioned, I find that 110 deaths occurred on the voyage! It would therefore appear that this vessel succeeded in going to sea with a much larger number of coolies than that authorised by the emigration officer, a copy of whose certificate is hereto annexed, and also an extract from the emigration record book, which purports to show, that a portion of the coolies originally shipped had declined to proceed on the voyage. *No. 1.* *No. 2.*

3. As regards the ship "Duke of Portland," I can only say, that the vessel was authorised to carry 334 passengers only, out of which number she appears to have landed 202. A copy of the clearance certificate of Mr. Hillier I also annex; I would, however, remark, that the requirements of the Chinese Passengers Act of 1855, appear to have been complied with at this port; that the vessel carried a surgeon, was supplied with medicines according to the scale prescribed in Schedule (A), and that the bonds in each case, copies of which are annexed, were duly entered into and executed. *No. 3.* *No. 4.* *No. 5.*

4. It appears to me that the ship "John Calvin" was improperly allowed to clear inwards at Havana with a greater number of coolies on board than the emigration officers' clearance from this port permitted; and that had an inquiry taken place at Havana, the fraud in both cases, if any had been committed, would have been detected, and this Government would no doubt have been furnished with such evidence as would have enabled it to recover from the sureties the penalties for the non-fulfilment of the provisions of the "Chinese Passengers Act" of 1855.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. R. Mitchell,*
Emigration Officer.

The Hon. W. F. Mercer,
Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

No. 1.

Emigration Officer's Certificate.

I hereby authorise the Chinese passenger ship, "John Calvin," to proceed to sea for the port of Havana in Cuba; and I certify that the said ship can legally carry 301 adults, and that there are on board 81 passengers, making in all male statute adults*; that the space set apart and to be kept clear for the use of such emigrants is as follows:—On the upper deck, 895.5 superficial feet, being fore poop cabin, 337.7; after deck house, 99.4; fore deck house, 458.6; and in the between decks, 2,724.2 superficial feet, being the whole deck; that the ship is properly manned and fitted, and that the means of ventilating the part of the between decks appropriated to passengers are as follows:—Wind sails and ventilation trunks; a plank taken out on each side of the deck; that the ship is furnished with a proper quantity of good provisions, fuel, and water for 147 days' issues to the passengers according to the annexed dietary scale, and with a proper quantity of medicines, instruments, and medical comforts according to the annexed scale of medical necessaries; that I have inspected the contracts between the emigrants and their intended employers (the terms of which are annexed to this certificate), and consider them, as now modified, to be

*(*sic* in original.)

be reasonable; that no fraud appears to have been practised in collecting the emigrants and that there are on board a surgeon and interpreter approved by me, and designated respectively, Le Chew and Laong Ahoy. The master of the ship is to put into St. Helena for water and fresh vegetables. Estimated length of voyage from Hong Kong to St. Helena, 79 days; St. Helena to Havana, 68 days.

(signed) *C. B. Hillier,*
Emigration Officer.

Dated at Hong Kong this 12th day of March, 1856.

True copy.
(signed) *C. R. Michell,*
Hong Kong, 29 December 1856. Emigration Officer.

No. 2.

This ship was despatched by Messrs. Lyall, Still, & Co., who applied for a clearance for 302 passengers (the ship had capacity for 301 and a portion) but on the passengers being mustered and the contracts explained by the emigration officer, all but 81 declined to go. Messrs. Lyall, Still, & Co. were told that a certificate could be granted for such passengers only as had signed their contracts and come on board willingly, with a full knowledge of the premises; that this present refusal to proceed, made evidence of consent in each case necessary. They replied that they were not prepared with this evidence, as the contracts had for the most part been witnessed before the procurador of Macao; they preferred, therefore, to receive a clearance for the number now consenting. There was no evidence of fraud or violence in collecting the men, but, on the contrary, proof of unusual care.

True copy.
(signed) *C. R. Mitchell,*
Emigration Officer.

Hong Kong, 29 December, 1856.
True copy.
(signed) *W. Woodgate.*

No. 3.

Emigration Officer's Certificate.

I hereby authorize the Chinese passenger ship, "Duke of Portland," to proceed to sea for the port of Havana, in Cuba; and I certify that the said ship can legally carry 334 adults, and that there are on board 334 passengers, making in all 334 adults, viz., 334 men, no women, no male children, and no female children, such children being between the ages of one and twelve years; that the space set apart and to be kept clear for the use of such emigrants is as follows:—On the upper deck, 1,140$\frac{8}{12}$ superficial feet, being fore poop cabins, cabin before poop, and deck-house, and in the between decks, 2,870 $\frac{8}{12}$ superficial feet, being the whole deck; that the ship is properly manned and fitted, and that the means of ventilating the part of the between decks appropriated to passengers are as follows: scuttles, air funnels, and wind sails; that the ship is furnished with a proper quantity of good provisions and fuel; water, more than sufficient for the passage to St. Helena, for 168 days' issues to the passengers, according to the annexed dietary scale, and with a proper quantity of medicines, instruments, and medical comforts, according to the annexed scale of medical necessaries; that I have inspected the contracts between the emigrants and their intended employers (the terms of which are annexed to this certificate), and consider them reasonable; that no fraud appears to have been practised in collecting the emigrants; and that there are on board a surgeon and interpreter approved by me, and designated respectively David Ludgate and Sungto. The master of the ship is to put into St. Helena for water and fresh vegetables. Passage from Hong Kong to St. Helena, estimated at 90 days; from St. Helena to Havana, at 78 days.

(signed) *C. B. Hillier,*
Emigration Officer.

Dated at Hong Kong this 1st day of April 1856.

Annexed to this certificate are:
1. Passenger List, as supplied by master.
2. Copy of the Contract for Labour.
3. Schedule (A) of Chinese Passengers' Act.

True copy.
(signed) *C. R. Michell,*
Emigration Officer,

Hong Kong, 29 December, 1856.
True copy.
(signed) *W. Woodgate.*

No. 4.

Colony of *Hong Kong* to wit.

Know all men by these presents, that we are held and firmly bound unto our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, in the sum of one thousand pounds of good and lawful money of Great Britain, to be paid to our said Sovereign Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors; to which payment, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves and every of us, jointly and severally for and in the whole, our heirs, executors, administrators, and every of them, firmly by these Presents.

(L. S.) (signed) *A. Thornhill.*
(L. S.) „ *Geo. Lyall.*
(L. S.) „ *C. F. Still.*
Sealed with our Seals.

Dated at Hong Kong this 11th day of February 1856.

Whereas by the Chinese Passengers Act, 1855, it is enacted, that before any Chinese passenger ship shall clear out or proceed to sea on a voyage of more than seven days' computed duration, the master thereof shall, with two sufficient Sureties to be approved by an Emigration Officer, enter into a bond to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, in the sum of one thousand pounds:

Now the condition of this obligation is this, that if (in respect of the ship "John Calvin," whereof Alonso Thornhill is master) all and every of the requirements of the said Chinese Passenger Act, and of the regulations contained in Schedule (A.) to the said Act annexed, or enacted by the Legislature of Hongkong, shall be well and truly observed and performed, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the above-bounden Alonso Thornhill, George Lyall, and Charles Frederick Still, in the presence of,

(signed) *C. B. Hillier,*
Emigration Officer.

(True copy.)

(signed) *C. R. Michell,*
Hong Kong, 29 December 1856. Emigration Officer.

(True copy.)
W. Woodgate.

No. 5.

Know all men by these presents, that we are held and firmly bound unto our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, in the sum of one thousand pounds of good and lawful money of Great Britain, to be paid to our said Sovereign Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, to which payment, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves and every of us, jointly and severally for and in the whole, our heirs, executors, administrators, and every of them, firmly by these presents.

(L. S.) (signed) *Geo. F. Seymour.*
(L. S.) „ *A. C. Malcolm.*
(L. S.) „ *Geo. Lyall.*
Sealed with our Seals.

Dated at Hongkong this 28th day of March 1856.

Whereas by the Chinese Passengers Act 1855, it is enacted, that before any Chinese passenger ship shall clear out or proceed to sea on a voyage of more than seven days' computed duration, the master thereof shall, with two sufficient sureties to be approved by an Emigration Officer, enter into a bond to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, in the sum of one thousand pounds:

Now the condition of this obligation is this, that if (in respect of the ship "Duke of Portland," whereof George Frederick Seymour is master) all and every of the requirements of the said Chinese Passenger Act, and of the regulations contained in Schedule (A.) to the said Act annexed, or enacted by the legislature of Hong Kong, shall be well and truly observed and performed (in like manner as the same ought to be observed and performed in case the said ship were a British ship, and the said* a British subject,) then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

* (This blank was in the original certificate.)

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the above-bounden George Frederick Seymour, Alexander Campbell Maclean, and George Lyall, in the presence of,

(signed) *C. B. Hillier,*
Emigration Officer.

(True copy.)

(signed) *C. R. Michell,*
Hong Kong, 29 December 1856. Emigration Officer,

(True copy.)
W. Woodgate.

— No. 12. —

No. 12.
H. Merivale, Esq.
to E. Hammond, Esq.
14 March 1857.

Copy of LETTER from *H. Merivale*, Esq., to *E. Hammond*, Esq.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 March 1857.

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Labouchere to acknowledge your letter of the 3d instant, transmitting a report from Sir John Bowring respecting the emigrant ships, "John Calvin" and "Duke of Portland," and inquiring whether there are any further steps which Mr. Labouchere would wish to be taken by the Foreign Office on this subject.

I am desired to transmit to you in answer, the enclosed copy of a despatch which has been addressed to Sir John Bowring, making some further inquiry into such measures as were adopted when these vessels sailed from Hong Kong; and I am to state that the Board of Trade has been informed of these inquiries. Nothing more appears to Mr. Labouchere to be required at the present moment.

14 March 1857.
No. 28.
Vide page 19.

I am, &c.
(signed) *H. Merivale.*

— No. 13. —

No. 13.
H. Merivale, Esq.
to J. Booth, Esq.
14 March 1857.

Copy of LETTER from *H. Merivale*, Esq., to *J. Booth*, Esq.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 March 1857.

With reference to your letter of the 3d, and to Mr. Farrer's letter of the 5th of February, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Labouchere to transmit to you the inclosed copy of a despatch, just received through the Foreign Office from Sir John Bowring, by which it would appear that the "John Calvin" and the "Duke of Portland," were both of them regularly cleared by Mr. Hillier, the Emigration Officer. Mr. Hillier himself is unhappily since deceased. Sir John Bowring will be called upon to inquire, as you have suggested, whether the passengers by the "Duke of Portland" were duly seen, and the correctness of their agreements ascertained; but it is to be observed that the evidence which the documents now received afford of the promptitude and vigour of action in this respect in the case of the "John Calvin," gives reason to hope that there was no undue neglect of the same matter in the case of the other ship, the "Duke of Portland," which sailed about the same time and under the same superintendence.

1 January 1857,
No. 5.
Vide page 15.

I am to acquaint you, however, that Mr. Labouchere notices another point which also requires to be cleared up. The rules appended to the Chinese Passengers Act, require that for every passenger on board there should be at least five superficial feet on the upper deck and 12 such feet below. The legislature of Hong Kong had power, under the Act itself, to substitute other rules, but Mr. Labouchere is not aware that the power has been exercised. Nevertheless, in the case of both these vessels the number of superficial feet allowed to each passenger is only about three on the upper deck, and eight on the lower. As the reduced space so nearly agrees in the case of each vessel, it may be that the Emigration Officer proceeded on some local rule which has escaped notice. But an explanation will be demanded on the point; and it is decidedly Mr. Labouchere's opinion that the space named in the rules appended to the Act of Parliament is not larger than sufficient.

I am, &c.
(signed) *H. Merivale.*

— No. 14. —

(No. 28.)

No. 14.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere to Governor Sir J. Bowring.
14 March 1857.

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Hon. *H. Labouchere* to Governor Sir *John Bowring*.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 March 1857.

With reference to my despatch,* No. 130, of the 14th of November last, sending to you such accounts as had at that time been received at this office of the deplorable mortality on board of two Chinese emigrant ships named the "Duke of Portland," and the "John Calvin," I transmit herewith two letters from the Board of Trade. The first of these letters encloses an account of an inquiry into this case by the Local Marine Board of London. The second encloses some other documents, including a statement by the chief mate of the "Duke of Portland," with explanatory notes by the captain in the margin, and also a copy of the certificate granted to the "Duke of Portland" by the emigration officer at Hong Kong. I am likewise desired to enclose a copy of the answer returned from this department to the Board of Trade.

* *Vide* page 5.

3 February 1857, *Vide* page 8.
5 February 1857. *Vide* page 12.
14 March 1857, *Vide* page 18.

Accounts have been received from Her Majesty's Consul at Havannah, in which he agrees with the Local Board in London, in exonerating from blame the master and the parties interested in the ship. He states that there is no reason to doubt that the emigrants were treated with every care and humanity. He says, that a fatal disease manifested itself among the coolies, and that they were probably predisposed to infection from not being in good condition when they were put on board. Both the "Duke of Portland" and the "John Calvin" are stated to have had a plentiful supply of water taken in at Hong Kong, but the Consul remarks, that it is supposed that it was not of a quality suitable to so long a voyage, and that it was often complained of by the passengers.

From the enclosures to your despatch† to the Earl of Clarendon, No. 5, dated the 1st of January, it appears that the passengers embarked in the "John Calvin" were duly inspected, and the correctness of their agreements ascertained. In compliance with the concluding suggestion in the letter‡ from the Board of Trade, dated the 5th of February, I have to request that you will inquire what record or evidence may exist, that a similar course was pursued in regard to the "Duke of Portland."

† Page 15.

‡ Page 12.

With respect to both vessels, I wish an explanation upon the numbers which they were computed to be legally qualified to carry. The body of rules appended to the Chinese Passenger Act required for each passenger a space of five superficial feet on the upper, and 12 superficial feet on the lower deck. I am not aware that the Hong Kong legislature has exercised its power to substitute another set of rules; but the figures embodied in the Emigration Officers' Certificates would only allow about three superficial feet above and eight below, in proportion to the number of passengers declared admissible in the "John Calvin" and "Duke of Portland." I shall be glad to receive a report on this subject. The space prescribed in the rules annexed is, in my opinion, decidedly not larger than sufficient, and it ought not to be diminished. I may also remark, that no requirement of the Passengers Act is more important than the one limiting the numbers to be carried, and that it is additionally useful from its simplicity, and from the consequent ease with which this security for the good of the passengers can be enforced.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Note.—A correspondence between the Board of Trade and the Lord Advocate on the subject of the "John Calvin" (not included in the above return) is now taking place, and will be presented when the Papers are ready.

CHINESE EMIGRANTS.

COPIES of COMMUNICATIONS to or from the Foreign Office, Colonial Office, Board of Trade, and any other Department of Her Majesty's Government, on the subject of MORTALITY on board the "Duke of Portland," or any other British Ships carrying EMIGRANTS from *China*.

(*Mr. Cardwell.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
21 *March* 1857.

147.

Under 3 *oz.*

955

IMMIGRANTS AND LIBERATED AFRICANS.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 10 February 1857;—*for*,

RETURN, "showing the Number of IMMIGRANTS and LIBERATED AFRICANS admitted into each of the *British West India* Colonies, as well as the Places from whence they were introduced, for each Year since 1847:"

"And, similar RETURN for *Mauritius* (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 130, of Session 1856)."

Colonial Office,
21 March 1857.

H. LABOUCHERE.

(*Mr. Moffatt.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
21 *March* 1857.

RETURN of IMMIGRANTS and LIBERATED AFRICANS introduced into the *West Indian* Colonies and *Mauritius*, in each Year from 1847 to the End of 1856, so far as known.

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	JAMAICA.										TRINIDAD.									
	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	TOTAL	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	TOTAL
Darien, U. S.	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	32	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	32
Great Britain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Havannah	49	79	61	39	16	32	- -	- -	- -	276	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
British West Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saba	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sierra Leone	1,148	228	177	317	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1,870	207	255	471	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	933
Kroo Coast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Helena	743	773	*230	452	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2,198	- -	1,290	304	- -	14	4	- -	- -	- -	1,612
Rio de Janeiro	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	323	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	323
Madeira	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	167	- -	212	- -	379	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Azores	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
East Indies	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	634	- -	- -	173	1,309	2,089	687	291	628	5,811
China	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	472	- -	- -	472	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	988	- -	- -	- -	988
Madagascar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cape de Verdes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	1,940	1,080	468	808	16	199	472	212	- -	5,195	873	1,868	775	173	1,323	3,081	687	291	628	9,699

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	BRITISH GUIANA.										ST. LUCIA.									
	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	TOTAL	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	TOTAL
Darien, U. S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Britain	- -	- -	- -	21	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Havannah	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
British West Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saba	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sierra Leone	821	- -	428	453	140	- -	- -	- -	- -	1,842	- -	365	186	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	551
Kroo Coast	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	273	- -	- -	- -	273	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Helena	876	- -	719	- -	15	- -	- -	- -	65	1,675	- -	- -	568	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	568
Rio de Janeiro	- -	111	72	- -	113	- -	- -	- -	- -	296	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madeira	300	86	1,040	1,101	1,009	2,567	648	875	77	7,763	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Azores	- -	- -	- -	164	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	164	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
East Indies	3,545	- -	- -	517	2,805	2,022	1,928	1,962	1,259	14,038	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
China	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	647	- -	- -	- -	647	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madagascar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cape de Verdes	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	766	766	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	5,542	197	2,259	2,256	4,082	5,509	2,576	2,837	2,176	27,425	- -	365	754	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1,119

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	ST. VINCENT.										GRENADA.									
	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	TOTAL	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	TOTAL
Darien, U. S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Britain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Havannah	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saba	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	23	- -	- -	- -	- -	23
Sierra Leone	- -	234	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	234	- -	711	261	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	972
St. Helena	- -	- -	575	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	575	- -	85	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	85
Rio de Janeiro	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madeira	86	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	86	- -	- -	- -	10	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	10
Azores	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
East Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madagascar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cape de Verdes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	86	234	575	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	895	- -	796	261	10	23	- -	- -	- -	- -	1,090

* These Africans were landed direct from a captured slaver.

RETURN of Immigrants and Liberated Africans introduced into the *West Indian* Colonies and *Mauritius*, &c.—*continued*.

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	ANTIGUA.										ST. KITT'S.									
	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	TOTAL	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	TOTAL
Darien, U. S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Britain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Havannah	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
British West Indies	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	19	- -	- -	- -	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saba	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sierra Leone	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	95	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	95
Kroo Coast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Helena	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	137	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	137
Rio de Janeiro	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madeira	7	132	63	180	21	335	167	- -	- -	905	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Azores	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
East Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
China	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madagascar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cape-de-Verdes	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	195	195	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	7	132	63	180	21	354	167	- -	195	1,119	- -	95	137	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	232

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	TOBAGO.										TOTAL TO WEST INDIES.									
	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	TOTAL	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	TOTAL
Darien, U. S.	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	32	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	32
Great Britain	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	21	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	21
Havannah	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	49	79	61	39	16	32	- -	- -	- -	276
British West Indies	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	19	- -	- -	- -	19
Saba	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	23	- -	- -	- -	- -	23
Sierra Leone	- -	- -	- -	46	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	46	2,176	1,888	1,523	816	140	- -	- -	- -	- -	6,543
Kroo Coast	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	273	- -	- -	- -	273
St. Helena	- -	- -	- -	246	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	246	1,619	2,148	2,533	698	29	4	- -	- -	65	7,096
Rio de Janeiro	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	434	72	- -	113	- -	- -	- -	- -	619
Madeira	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	393	218	1,103	1,291	1,030	3,069	815	1,087	77	9,083
Azores	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	164	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	164
East Indies	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	4,179	- -	- -	690	4,114	4,111	2,615	2,253	1,887	19,849
China	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1,635	472	- -	- -	2,107
Madagascar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cape-de-Verdes	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	961	961
TOTAL	- -	- -	- -	292	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	292	8,448	4,767	5,292	3,719	5,465	9,143	3,902	3,340	2,990	47,066

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	MAURITIUS.									
	1848	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	*1856.	TOTAL
Darien, U. S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Britain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Havannah	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saba	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sierra Leone	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Helena	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rio de Janeiro	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madeira	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Azores	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
East Indies	5,303	7,282	9,823	9,295	16,796	12,144	18,516	12,915	4,974	97,048
Madagascar	- -	- -	- -	39	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	39
East Coast of Africa (Ibo)	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	325	325
Aden	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	130	130
TOTAL	5,303	7,282	9,823	9,334	16,796	12,144	18,516	12,915	5,429	97,542

* The Return of Immigration for the third Quarter only of 1856 has as yet been received.

Government Emigration Board,
28 February 1857.

(signed) *S. Walcott*,
Secretary.

IMMIGRANTS AND LIBERATED AFRICANS.

RETURN, showing the Number of IMMIGRANTS and LIBERATED AFRICANS admitted into each of the *British West India* Colonies, and *Mauritius*, as well as the Places from whence they were introduced, for each Year since 1847.

(Mr. Moffatt.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
21 *March* 1857.

Under 1 *oz.*

959

LICENSED PASSAGE BROKERS, &c. (LIVERPOOL).

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 3 March 1857;—*for*,

A RETURN "of the Number and Names of the LICENSED PASSAGE BROKERS and LICENSED RECEIVERS in the Port of *Liverpool*, with the Addresses or Places of Business of each, under the Act of 1855."

Colonial Office,
21 March 1857.

H. LABOUCHERE.

(*Mr. Horsfall.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
21 *March* 1857.

RETURN of the Number and Names of the LICENSED PASSAGE BROKERS and LICENSED RECEIVERS in the Port of *Liverpool*, with the Addresses, or Places of Business of each, under the Act of 1855.

Sir, Emigration Office, 7 March 1857.

WE have the honour to transmit herewith, in order that it may be laid before the House of Commons, a Return to an Order of The House of the 3d instant.

2. The Order calls for the number and names, and other particulars of licensed passage brokers and "licensed receivers," in the port of Liverpool.

3. We have given the particulars of the passage brokers, but we have no information in this office respecting licensed receivers, nor indeed do we know what class of persons are included under that designation.

4. We must also explain that all passage brokers' licenses expire on the 31st January in each year, and that the enclosed Return contains only the names and particulars of those persons who have been notified to us as having obtained licenses up to the present date for the current year. Additional licenses are applied for, and issued from time to time, during the currency of each year.

We have, &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
C. Alexander Wood.

H. Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

LIST of PARTIES who, during the Months of JANUARY, FEBRUARY, and MARCH, 1857, have been notified to the Emigration Commissioners as having received Passage Brokers' Licenses in *Liverpool*.

	NAME.	OCCUPATION.	ADDRESS.	Date of License.
				1857:
1	Buggiani, Raphael	Victualler	Whitechapel, Liverpool	19 January.
2	Boyd, Henry	Passage broker	82, Dublin-street „	27 „
3	Bradley, Thomas	Ditto	173, Great Howard-street „	27 „
4	Baines, James	Merchant	6, Cook-street „	16 February.
5	Chambers, James	Shipowner	21, Water-street „	9 January.
6	Davies, David	Bookkeeper	29, Union-street „	6 February.
7	Dowie, James	Ship broker	32, Tower-buildings West „	19 „
8	Elliott, Thomas	Passage broker	23, Neptune-street „	24 January.
9	Frackelton, William	Passenger broker	70, Waterloo-road „	15 „
10	Fox, Henry	Passage broker	2, King-street „	21 „
11	Guion, Stephen B.	Merchant	37, Bedford-street South „	13 „
12	Grinnell, R. M.	Ditto	5, Regent-road „	17 February.
13	Holt, Philip H.	Ditto	21, Water-street „	12 January.
14	Hill, Samuel	Grocer	84, Dublin-street „	24 „
15	Hart, Nathan S.	Provision merchant	31, Waterloo-road „	30 „
16	Hill, Charles	Commission agent	89, Waterloo-road „	6 February.
17	Hartmann, Julius	Agent	39, Paradise-street „	19 „
18	Howard, Henry	Forwarding agent	5, Leeds street „	3 March.
19	Inman, William	Merchant	Tower-buildings „	3 February.
20	Kelso, S. W.	Ship broker	17, Water-street „	3 March.
21	Lamb, James	Merchant	41, Union-street „	20 February.
22	Michols, John	Passage broker	2, Williamson-square „	19 January.
23	Michell, D. P.	Ditto	27, Waterloo-road „	22 „
24	Milne, D. E.	Ditto	68, Waterloo-road „	31 „
25	Martin, Robert	Bookkeeper	146, Great Howard-street „	31 „
26	Mahon, Patrick	Passage broker	William-street „	3 February.
27	Percival, George	Broker	23, Bath-street „	17 January.
28	Pratt, Orson	Passage broker	42, Islington „	4 February.
29	Ramsden, George	Ditto	25, Hunter-street „	20 January.
30	Ramsden, Erasmus	Ditto	22, Hunter-street „	22 „
31	Shaw, John William	Ditto	90, Waterloo-road „	30 „
32	Saul, George	Ditto	36, Waterloo-road „	31 „
33	Stern, Samuel	Ditto	50, Duke-street „	3 February.
34	Sabel, Frederic	Merchant	3, Regent-road „	4 „
35	Salomon, S. M.	Ditto	12, Waterloo-road „	18 „
36	Tracy, Thomas	Passage broker	60, Waterloo-road „	19 January.
37	Thompson, Edmund	Ship broker	Drury-buildings, Water-st. „	19 „
38	Thompson, Josiah	Ship agent	10, Goree-piazzas „	29 „
39	Tucker, William E.	Bookkeeper	6, Water-street „	7 February.
40	Thomas, Henry	Passage broker	51, Waterloo-road „	24 „
41	Tapscott, William	Ditto	39, Old Hall-street „	3 March.
42	Wilson, John	Shipowner	14, Hale-street „	13 January.
43	Walthew, James M.	Ship broker	46, Chapel-street „	27 „
44	Weeks, William	Passage broker	3, St. Paul's-square „	10 February.

Government Emigration Board,
8 Park-street, Westminster,
7 March 1857.

(signed) *S. Walcott*, Secretary.

LICENSED PASSAGE BROKERS, &c. (LIVERPOOL).

RETURN of the Number and Names of the LICENSED PASSAGE BROKERS and LICENSED RECEIVERS in the Port of *Liverpool*, with the Addresses or Places of Business of each, under the Act of 1855.

(*Mr. Horsfall.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
21 *March* 1857.

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Under 1 *oz.*